



MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

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Tribal leaders meet to rebuttle Tobacco Tax accusations

TULSA—Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and National Council Representative George Tiger met with members of the Tulsa World Editorial Board to discuss the issues surrounding tribal tobacco tax and the growing controversy stemming from the Oklahoma Governor's office and State Treasurer Scott Meacham.

Meacham has accused tribal smoke shop owners from several tribes of "skimming" from and "cheating" on the collection of tobacco tax laws.

This comes after an article was printed in the July 24 Sunday Tulsa World entitled State pressing tax stamp issue. The article, written by World Staff writer Omer Gillham, states that State Treasurer Scott Meacham said the Oklahoma Tax Commission has begun an investigative audit of a large tobacco wholesaler. Meacham would not name the wholesaler, but he said the Tax Commission is looking at auditing other tobacco wholesalers.

Meacham said tribal smoke shops in eastern Oklahoma appear to be ordering or obtaining large quantities of cigarettes marked with the lowest price tax stamps. For the most part, those cigarettes are supposed to be sold by stores on the border in competition against states with competing tobacco products.

American Indian leaders, such as Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief Ellis, Cherokee Chief Chad Smith, Osage Nation Chief Jim Gray, have asked the governor to intervene in an escalating feud over the enforcement of a cigarette tax.

Smith was quoted as saying the tribes have operated in good faith with Oklahoma for decades, working out tobacco and gaming issues that mutually benefited the tribes and the state. Smith also mentioned that Meacham's comments have maligned the tribes, casting them in the poorest possible light.

Chief Ellis and Council Representative Tiger are hoping that meeting with members of the media will brighten the understanding of tribal businesses, how they help the local economy and the benefit to tribal and non-tribal citizens.

Chief and tribal officials travel to California for association meeting



Muscogee (Creek) District Judge Moore presents California Muscogee (Creek) Association Chairman Ely Grayson with a replica of the historic Muscogee (Creek) Navy Flag. Moore and other tribal officials traveled to California in July to meet with local tribal residents.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Tiger's artwork to help fight in the war against HIV/AIDS

TAHLEQUAH — During the 2005 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Dana Tiger presented her latest art work, the "First in Series" HIV/AIDS poster.

Dana Tiger's original artwork for the National HIV/AIDS Partnership poster for the Native American community features a child holding a Medicine Wheel. "To our people the child is considered sacred," said Tiger. "Sacred because she has not long left the Spirit World and the side of the Creator to bless us with her presence. Our blessing, our honor is to nurture, protect and guide her with all diligence to a path of well-being and strength until the day she stands on her own".

According to Tiger, the Medicine Wheel is meant to



represent all of life's lessons to all of our planet's people. The circle embodies many teachings that over the years we have forgotten, which have led us to this place of much violence and disease.

"The Medicine Wheel is sacred because these teachings came from Unelanahi in the beginning to keep us connected to Mother Earth and the Universe in a good and balanced way," said Tiger.

The circle has four directions: east, south, west and north. The Medicine Wheel teaches about a cycle of life. "In the east we have the baby," said Tiger. "In the south is the youth, in the west we have the elder. So the cycle of

life is baby, youth, adult, and elder. (See health on page 18 for more information on Dana Tiger.)

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Blues Society gives thanks

Editor:

I wanted to take a moment and personally thank you on behalf of the Blues Society of Tulsa for inviting us to the 31st Annual Creek Festival.

It was such a fun, wholesome event, with something for people of all ages. Being music lovers, those of us who attended were very impressed with the entertainment. We knew what to expect with the talent of the local and regional bands as well.

Thank you for allowing us to set up a booth. Not only did this allow us to raise funds for our non-profit group, but provide us with the opportunity to visit with many people attending the festival. This goes a long way in helping to promote and keep the blues alive in Northeastern Oklahoma, not to mention making new friends.

Finally, through the music, speakers and award presentations, it helped us learn more about the Creek culture.

Bill Martin, Tulsa President

Comanche Nation expresses appreciation

Editor:

I want to convey my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for the assistance extended to the Comanche Nation Election Board on their visit to your office on July 1. Committee person, LaNora Parker and election board members, Marian Mithlo, Marilyn Tiger and Linda Tehauno have relayed the wonderful reception given them. The report established is something that has certainly forged a lasting friendship.

Your Election Board and staff are to be commended not only for their graciousness, but for the reason this trip was made, to see the Muscogee Nation's Election Board Office. Terry Eainey, Automated Election Services, was correct in ascertaining your election board office is the model office. And of course, the Comanche Nation Election Board would like to be a model office as well.

Thanks to Election Board Members Eugenia Tiger, Diane Meeker, Linda Cusher, Richard Anderson and Vernon Courtwright for their presence and input. Thanks to the Election Board Staff Nettie Harjo, Tracey Lowe and Betsy Varmer as well.

And special thanks to Thomas Yahola, Speaker of the National Council, for the tour and history of the Muscogee Nation. Thanks to Alfred Berryhill for his hospitality and to Claude Sumner for his humor and goodwill.

As Chiefs of our tribes, we can relate to tribal concern, the pride of a job well done, and the extended hand of gratitude. On behalf of the Comanche Nation, I can truly say you're Election Board and tribal officials are a reflection on you, Uh-Dah.

Wallace Coffey, Chairman Comanche Nation

Citizens give thanks for making festival a success

Editor:

We would like to thank the following for helping make the entertainment very successful during this year's festival: Peggy and BBR Graphics of Mounds for providing the banners for the rodeo, ball fields and concerts; Ken and Mary Brown of Dallas for their artwork; Blues Society of Tulsa President Bill Martin and Vice President Eddie Bagwell; John and Sharon Eskew of the Coney Island; Oklahoma Blues Society President David Fisk; KMOD and the Phil and Brent Show; Smokehouse Blues Paul "the Blues Hippie" Rowlett; KOKL Okmulgee for promoting the festival; businesses that let us put up our posters; Massey's Bar-B-Que of Okmulgee for feeding this year's musicians; OKC Backup for the

great lights and sound; Darryl Noble for the concert t-shirts; the T-Shirt Guy of Broken Arrow for the Stompdance t-shirts; and Richard Beaver for use of his "getting ready" painting for the stompdance posters and t-shirts.

We would also like to thank: Principal Chief Ellis; Second Chief Berryhill; Chief of Staff Mike Flud; Festival Chairman Lucas Taylor; Vice Chairman Carmen Gore, Secretary Sheila Buckley; and the committee members at large for their support. Thanks to all the families for putting up with all of us while we prepared for the best festival ever!!!.... Mvto!!

Ruth Bible & Barney Ingram, Okmulgee

Organization focus on revitalization

Editor:

On behalf of the Okmulgee Main Street Program, a non-profit community organization that focuses on downtown revitalization for the betterment of our community, we felt compelled to write this letter to you. We know, from lots of experience with Downtown happenings and events continuously, how diligently everyone works to make the events a reality, as well as a success. It's always nice to hear some warm fuzzy, positive comments, rather than hear everything that needs to be improved upon. We're sending some positive comments your way because you deserve it!

It was such a positive event to have the Muscogee Creek Nation Festival Parade in Downtown Okmulgee. Thousands of families, individuals, friends and neighbors all seemed to thoroughly enjoy the parade and the Creek Council House Indian Art Festival activities. I truly believe having both events Downtown during the Annual Muscogee Creek Nation Festival was very successful and enjoyable to all.

In addition, the Okmulgee Main Street Office received several phone calls and visits from Downtown Okmulgee business owners who commended on how great it was and how many visitors spent time exploring and shopping in the variety of stores. Many indicated having a great day of steady shoppers and good sales. So not only did the parade successfully add to the variety of fun activities and events held during the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival, but it was also very positive for our community business as well. I just wanted to extend and express their appreciation which was communicated to Okmulgee Main Street.

We look forward to future parades and any other activities we can have in Downtown Okmulgee by partnering and working with the Muscogee Creek Nation and the Creek Nation Festival Committee.

Again, we send many warm fuzzies and positive kudos your direction. We enjoyed working together with members of your festival committee to make the Parade a reality and look forward to working together again in the future.

Thanks!

Kendell Callaway Mooney, Program Director

Woman urges tribe to honor tribal citizen

Editor:

It has come to my attention that the tribe recently voted and honored four living legends among the People. I was surprised to notice that David Lewis Jr. was not mentioned. Being concerned, I

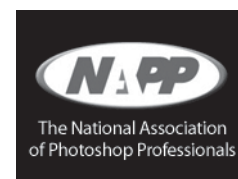
please see **LETTERS....**, page 23



Members of the following two associations:



Native American Journalist Association



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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

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Office of the Principal Chief

by Chief A.D. Ellis

Good day to all Creeks!

First of all I must brag about the week we just finished in tribal government. Tuesday was the date of the sheriff sale at the Fountainhead Resort. We bid two thirds of the appraisal price and had no competitive or other bids. Now we are the proud owners of the resort and 69 acres of prime lake property.

At Saturday's National Council meeting, many items of important business were approved but most important was the approval of interim financing for construction of the new Tulsa Casino. This reversal of opinions by some Council Representatives was a wise move and will now allow the Nation to move forward. This project



is an economic issue that will eventually provide revenue and jobs that will definitely benefit our nation.

Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver almost three years ago announced the ground breaking at the Riverside site. During this time, the Cherokee Nation has opened a casino and the Osage Nation has opened two in Tulsa. I still feel that even though we are late, ours will be the largest and the best in Oklahoma. We are taking bids for the final construction of our new Industrial Park, the Transit office and Bus Terminal, Head Start building and also the expansion of Duck Creek, Okemah and Eufaula Gaming Centers.

Congratulations to the Eufaula Community on their new ownership of the skating rink. This is a nice facility that will provide the much needed room to expand.

Last week myself and several support staff managers and directors attended the annual meeting of the California Creeks in West Hollywood California. This was my fourth meeting and my annual promise to meet to assure that these

people are not forgotten and are an important part of this Nation. Last year's attendance was probably 125 people but what a surprise this year when approximately 1,000 Creeks showed up. The most thanks goes to Eli Grayson for making this possible. He has performed above and beyond by serving California Creeks and attending council meetings here at Okmulgee. MVTO to all who helped to make this possible and the many volunteers who worked. To **Beth Flud** and **Gail Ellis** who worked for hours signing everyone up at the front table. I tried to visit with as many citizens as possible and talked to as many as I could. You are all important to this office. I believe the numbers of voters will increase this year because of the new interest that seems to be appearing by tribal citizens. Also, the tribal web page is www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov. MVTO.

Quote of the Month: *"We must build a progressive future by practicing self determination through action, not words."*

NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY SERIES

Native American Democracy's
Impact on the United States' Government

By
Patrick E. Moore

Each Nation is an absolute Republic by itself, governed in all Public Affairs of War and Peace by the Sachems of old men, whose Authority and Power is gained by and consists wholly in the opinions of the rest of the Nation in their Wisdom and Integrity. They never execute their Resolutions by Compulsion or Force Upon any of their people. Honor and esteem are their principal Rewards, as Shame and being Despised are their Punishments. B Cadwallader Colden, 1727

Democracy had its roots in the governments of Pre-Columbian America. The concept developed in Native America long before Europeans arrived. Democracy existed long before a lost Columbus stumbled upon an island in the Caribbean and was saved by a people who had been practicing democracy for eons. Democracy would eventually become known worldwide, but the inventors of democracy, the First Americans, were driven from their lands and branded uncivilized savages.

Charles Thompson, the General Secretary to The Continental Congress in 1774, was a very able and scholarly man. Thomas Jefferson requested Mr. Thompson review Native American Governments and prepare a report for Jefferson's use in developing a new governing document for The United States. Secretary Thompson spent so much personal time working on this assignment that he was eventually adopted into the Delaware Nation as a full citizen.

Prior to 1492 Europeans had not been exposed to democracy. The French government was one of Kings named Louis, who exploited, oppressed and starved their subjects while the King and Court were living in extravagance. The English were governed by monarchs who claimed their throne by act of God and believed they had the Divine right to exterminate the Irish and Spanish Kings and Queens invented the inquisition. There were other minor kingdoms and monarchies in Europe, but the English, French and Spanish were the major powers responsible for the invasion of the Americas.

Secretary Thompson studied The League of Six Nations also known as The Iroquois Confederacy, the Muscogee Confederacy and numerous other Native American Nations practicing democratic town and tribal governments.

Twenty-one Iroquois Confederacy Sachems were formally invited to attend meetings of the Continental Congress and on June 11, 1776 participated in the debate and discussion concerning the first draft of the U.S. Constitution. Iroquois leaders were considered as servants to their people.

Canassatego, a Iroquois Sachem, had proposed at a meeting with the Governor of New York in July 1754 that the thirteen colonies form a government patterned after the League of Six Nations. Canassatego complained and said "We find it difficult to deal with so many different administrations, it would be much better if you would unify and speak with one voice." Benjamin Franklin was present during this summer meeting reporting on the discussions in his newspaper. Franklin later drafted an extensive plan for the organization of the colonies as thirteen separate governments united under one central government. His outline for a federal government in the Americas was not accepted by the British King and lay dormant until July 1776 when Franklin presented his ideas for the formation of a United States to representatives from the colonies meeting to draft a constitution.

Secretary Thompson's lengthy report was included in Thomas Jefferson's *Notes on the State of Virginia*. The report contained very detailed descriptions of Native American political traditions.

Thompson described Native American governments with a town council house where all the decisions of local import were discussed openly and decisions democratically made by officials elected to the Tribal Council. The Tribal Council in turn elected delegates to a National Council. Thompson's report reads like the original language contained in The United States Constitution where the power to elect United States Senators was delegated to each state's legislature.

Thompson also reported that Iroquois Sachems were elected to certain seats within each legislative body and did not achieve their position solely by heredity. The Sachem was a lawmaker not a warrior, he could not go to war in his legislative

capacity. If it became necessary for the Sachem to become a common warrior he would resign his civil lawmaking position.

The United States Constitution also contains these separations of civilian office from military office. Members of Congress, Judges and other officials cannot serve in the military without first resigning their civilian post and a military officer cannot be elected to civilian office without resigning from the military.

This U. S. Constitutional provision, courtesy of Native American government, was a substantial contrast to British governmental traditions where leaders of the church and military often served in the legislature and church leaders often commanded the armed forces in Europe.

The lack of complete separation between a civil government and its military has caused the failure of many governments who have tried to imitate the United States. Numerous Latin American governments have failed because the General was also the President of the country.

Thompson's report also contained the concept of impeachment, or legislative removal from office, to be used whenever the conduct of a Sachem was improper or he lost the confidence of the electorate. This concept was totally unknown in European tradition where the King ruled until death even when insane or incapacitated. King George III of England continued to rule the British Empire even though a raving lunatic.

Thompson also detailed how the Iroquois Confederacy allowed for additional member Nations to be admitted in the future. This concept was included in the United States Constitution and played a most important role in western development since it allowed territories to be admitted as new states.

The men who discussed and wrote the final Draft of the United States Constitution deliberately imitated the Grand Council of the League of Six Nations when they created as part of the United States Constitution the Electoral College for selection of the President. Each state legislature is allowed to legislate the method for selecting the Electoral College voters who then cast a vote for President based upon the number of United States Senators and Representatives each state is allowed. Sachems

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the September 23, special session.

September 30, Extraordinary session

Absent were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek District; **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee District; **Lena Wind**, Okfuskee District; **Robert Jones**, Okmulgee District; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpytce District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District; **Ronald Cleghorn**, Tulsa District;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpytce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

representatives **Duke Harjo** and **Cherrah Quiett** arrived during executive session;

- approved as amended (15-2-0) TR 04-115, confirming the nomination of **Rodney S. Burris** as Deputy Director of Housing Division;

voting no were: **Barnett**, Creek; and **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee;

- return to committee (12-5-0) TR 04-116, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Choctaw Nation Consulting Division for Management Consultant services for the Koweta Clinic Construction project;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved (17-0-0) NCA 04-181, appropriating funds for the civil design and development of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Industrial Park;

- approved (17-0-0) NCA 04-182, creating the office of the Internal Auditor within the Executive Branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and codifying said law in Title 37 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation code annotated;

- approved (17-0-0) NCA 04-183, amending NCA 03-030 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for a special service agreement with Micrguard Systems, LLC)

K. Johnson was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

- killed (16-0-0) NCA 04-184, amending NCA 04-126 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation establishing a comprehensive clothing assistance program for over income families;

Pickering was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- approved as amended (16-0-0) NCA 04-185, authorizing the Principal Chief to appropriate funds to furnish materials and labor for work on tribally owned building and property at Bureau of Indian Affairs, Eastern Oklahoma Region Office located at 3100 W. Peak Blvd. in Muskogee, Muskogee County, Oklahoma;

representative **Pickering** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- killed (16-0-0) NCA 04-186, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an easement contract and convey an ease-

ment to public services company of Oklahoma, Inc. For the purpose of providing and maintaining electrical services to the Creek Nation Tulsa Casino;

May 21, regular session

Absent were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek District; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpytce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

- tabled (12-9-0) TR 05-030, TR 05-031, TR 05-032, TR 05-033, and TR 05-034;

voting no were: **Notaro**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Quiett**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved (18-3-0) TR 05-072, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract for the purchase of land in Okmulgee County, Oklahoma;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved (21-0-0) TR 05-073, to pay homage upon the death of any former/present elected official of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation by the lowering to half-staff of both the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the flag of the United States;

- approved as amended (21-0-0) TR 05-074, authorizing an expansion to the existing Duck Creek Casino and authorizing the Principal Chief to use three months of the nation's gaming revenues from the Duck Creek Casino, including the distribution that would be allocated to the Duck Creek Indian Community, to pay for said expansion;

- approved as amended (21-0-0) TR 05-075, confirming the nomination of **Ronald W. Qualls** as director of the Housing Division for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

- approved (20-1-0) TR 05-076, confirming the renomination of **Vernon Courtwright** to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation election board;

voting no were: **Wind**, Okfuskee;

- approved (21-0-0) TR 05-077, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an oil and gas mining lease on 36.59 acres of tribal trust property located in Hughes county;

- approved (19-1-1) TR 05-078, confirming the nomination of **Denette A. Mouser** to serve the remaining term of Supreme Court Justice **Roger F. Wiley**;

voting no were: **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

abstain were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee;

- approved (19-1-1) TR 05-080, entering into a memorandum of understanding with **David P. Sharp** d/b/a Sharp Development to develop a Gaming Enterprise with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in the Brady District of Tulsa, Oklahoma;

voting no were: **Fields**, Tukvpytce;

abstain were: **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

representative **David Nichols**, Okmulgee;

- approved as amended (17-3-0) NCA 05-052, authorizing a special appropriation to the East Central Oklahoma Blood Institute to assist with the needed expansion to build a

larger facility;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Ade**, Tukvpytce; **Fields**, Tukvpytce;

representative **Robert Jones**, Okmulgee arrived;

- approved as amended (21-0-0) NCA 05-076, authorizing a special appropriation of funds to be the tote bag sponsor of the National Congress of American Indians meeting in Tulsa October 30, 2005 through November 5, 2005;

- return to committee (11-10-0) NCA 05-097, amending MCNCA Title 16, §§ 4-105, 106.B. and 109 to clarify police officer education requirements;

voting no were: **Tiger**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpytce; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved as amended (19-2-0) NCA 05-098, authorizing a special appropriation to assist the United Methodist men with funding for a church conference in Indiana;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; and **Berryhill**, Wagoner;

- approved (21-0-0) NCA 05-099, authorizing a supplemental appropriation of funds to the higher education department for Spring and Summer 2005 semester;

- approved (21-0-0) NCA 05-100, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation GSA/Facilities department for the purchase of a new tractor, trailer and brush hog;

- approved as amended (19-2-0) NCA 05-101, appropriating funds for the installation of a surveillance system for the main building of the tribal complex;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee and **Fields**, Tukvpytce;

- approved (17-4-0) NCA 05-104, authorizing the expenditure of BIA "additional funds" awarded to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for the tribal forestry improvement program #CTG07T90846;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvpytce; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola** relinquished the Chair to Second Speaker **Richard Berryhill** to address NCA 05-105;

- approved (20-1-0) NCA 05-105, amending the constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation by referendum vote to replace Muscogee (Creek) Nation with Mvskoke ETVLWY,

Statistics on salaries of elected officials

OKMULGEE — The following is a correct lisitng of the salary of the National Council Speaker - \$39,811

As stated in last month's issue, the Chief, Second Chief, and National Council Speaker salaries are set by National Council.

Creeks visit California Creeks

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Muscogee (Creek) Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, as well as Tribal District Court Judge Patrick Moore and several members of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, recently visited the California Muscogee (Creek) Association on Friday, July 22, and Saturday, July 23.

The group, along with members of the Election Board, Citizenship Department, Communications, Higher Education, and other offices, were also invited to make the trip.

A tour of the Native American United Involvement Center in Los Angeles, as well as a town hall meeting in West Hollywood, were parts of the agenda. This was the second consecutive trip for tribal officials since October of 2004.

Eli Grayson, President of the California Muscogee (Creek) Association, was pleased with the turnout from people living in the area, as the town hall meeting drew even more than last year.

"I can't believe what a difference it was from last year to this year," said Chief Ellis. "We are all going to make sure we take care of all of these people."

Tribal officials set up information and sign up booths for citizens in the area to find out more about how their tribal government works and how citizens are served. Many were also seeking information about tribal citizenship and registering to vote.

During the meeting, several topics were discussed and ranged from health benefits, to educational opportunities that were shared with the audience.

Members of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council also addressed questions from the audience concerning the Tulsa Riverside project and other governmental topics.

For many, the visit proved to be somewhat of a personal gathering as family, friends, and old acquaintances were re-united.

"I think this is outstanding," said Creek Senior Citizen Katie Smith. "It's unusual to see something like this and I'm glad the nation gets together and does something like this. There's Creek Indians all around." Smith has family that live in the California area and recalls that back in the forties and fifties of making frequent train travels, as well as the historic route 66 road trip.

The Mayor of West Hollywood, Abbey Land, was also in attendance. "We are always happy to welcome you," said Mayor Land to Chief Ellis and all visitors during the meeting.

Mayor Land has served in different capacities for the city, including city council as well. Mayor Land could not recall of such a meeting involving an American Indian tribe taking place such as this, but said that such a meeting only proves the diversity of the California population.



Second Chief Berryhill gives a Muscogee blessing before the luncheon and meeting in California.



Pictured above, from L to R, are: Eli Grayson, West Hollywood Mayor Abbie Land, and Chief Ellis.

Oklahoma City Creek Association to move to new location

OKLAHOMA CITY — Members of the Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association are looking forward to relocation of their offices of operation.

The Association will move from their present offices, which are located 3416 South Robinson, to 1500 Northeast 4th Street, Suite 107.

The new location will contain office space, as well as a gift shop.

The Association, which is scheduled to meet on the last Saturday of each month, will hold a formal opening on Tuesday, September 6.

The current mailing address of the Association is: P.O. BOX 1322, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73129 or call (405) 605-2621.



Current site of Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association located at 3416 South Robinson.

Tribe, College Board of Regents hold forum on education

OKMULGEE — On July 26, tribal officials, The Board of Regents for the College of the Muscogee Nation, and tribal citizens gathered in the Mound Building Auditorium to hold a tribal forum on education.

Officials offered a far-reaching vision of the role and impact of the college. Audience members came from as far away as California to listen to a description of the rise of Social Sovereignty, the Muscogee Nation's own control of education.

All Tribes Community Church hosted the pre-program reception. Second Chief Alfred Berryhill gave the invocation and then raised the possibility that a future president of the United States could be trained at the college. Regents Chair Ramona Mason noted there are nearly 60 students enrolled in the College. She also announced that the new President of the college is Dr. Myra Alexander-Starr, who formerly held a deanship at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas.

University of Chicago anthropologist Raymond Fogelson, was the featured speaker. He addressed issues of creativity, community and liberal arts education. Dr. Fogelson mentioned the Navajo Nation's Rough Rock School as a model that shows how the community can be involved in the educational process. He also stated how intergenerational transmission of knowledge is paramount to continuity of the culture

as seen in the Rough Rock example.

Dr. Fogelson also mentioned how the curriculum of the College can be presented as a product of the Creeks themselves. He emphasized that small class sizes are important as is more emphasis on active engagement of the educational process, not just a passive learning but actively using what is learned. He concluded with the idea of using the mentoring concept, which will allow for all of the previously mentioned aspects of the educational system and additionally, will allow for the culture of the Creek people to continue and prosper by involving elders in the learning process.

Other College Regents present included Pandey Ramirez and Robert Bible, as well as Chief of Staff Mike Flud, Interim President James King, Human Development Division head Pete Coser, and OSU-Okmulgee Health Sciences Division Chair Jerry Wilson. OSU-Okmulgee president Bob Klabenes hosted a fine luncheon for the dignitaries, prepared by students of the culinary school on campus.

Creek Council House Museum Curator Theodore Isham served as master of ceremonies. Traveling with Dr. Fogelson were Comparative Religion Professor Robert McKinley of Michigan State University and American Indian Studies Coordinator at Ohio State University, Dr. Jay Miller.

University awarded federal grant to train educators

DURANT — A federal grant worth nearly \$1 million was awarded to Southeastern Oklahoma State University to develop a program that will help train 12 American Indian teachers in Oklahoma beginning in 2006.

Southeastern Oklahoma State University and the Choctaw Nation teamed up to win a \$965,000 federal grant to pay the tuition, books and day-care expenses for twelve qualified American Indian students.

Applicants must be majoring in education and currently in their junior and senior year of college. A minimum grade point average of 2.5 is required.

In return for the financial aid, recipients will agree to teach in an area where at least 25 percent of the population is American Indian.

The grant comes from the U.S. Department of Education as part of the Office of Indian Education's professional development program. "Southeastern is one of 13 colleges and universities to win the award," said Tim Boatman, Director of the Academic Advising and Outreach Center.

Applications for the program will be made available around the first of the year on Southeastern Oklahoma State University's official Web site at: www.sosu.edu.

Haskell Indian Nations University plans implementation Distance Education Program

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Haskell Indian Nations University has entered into its third year of its on-line education program that cooperates with interested tribal entities. The University has successfully offered on-line courses to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in Kansas for two years.

Haskell has contacted the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN), Oklahoma State University (OSU) and Wes Watkins Technology Center (WWTC) located in Wetumka, Oklahoma to offer our program to Muscogee members. The Muscogee Nation National Council has agreed

to cover student distance education fees and any costs incurred by the program. The program will begin this fall. Muscogee students will attend classes at both HINU and WWTC using the latest technology available.

The virtual students at WWTC will attend regularly scheduled classes and meet in a real time environment that allows asynchronous (two way) interaction. In addition to this real time interaction, their distance education fees help cover the Blackboard on-line software fees that allows for submission of assignments. The student's homework will be turned in via the internet by

using blackboard.

The goal at HINU is to allow for Natives to attend college and make a step towards the academic life while remaining at home close to family and traditional ties.

WWTC has been asked to donate their facility to the virtual students and allow them access to their video teleconferencing classroom to attend the on-line classes. WWTC Director Don Chesser has approved this request and is readily available for supporting this effort. Adult Education Director and tribal member Frank Alexander has been very active in discussions and will help arrange the schedules and accept any

applications for fall enrollment.

In addition to these HINU courses, Oklahoma State University has waived any technological fees involved with delivering their Muscogee I and II courses to both our virtual and on campus students.

HINU will offer nine on-line classes this fall semester, in addition to the OSU Muscogee I course. The on-line courses will be regularly scheduled and are already processed through the registrar's office. HINU anticipates 15 to 20 virtual students at the WWTC location per class and these are offered on a first come first

serve basis. These students will be classified as part time enrolled students unless they enroll in 12 or more credit hours which classifies them as full-time. Students will have to submit complete applications that are available at WWTC and on-line at: <http://www.haskell.edu>.

These applications are for admission into the on-line program only.

The deadline for applications is Friday August 29 at 5:00 p.m. Since classes will begin on August 24, students should prepare to attend their first class that same week.

Once the application process is final, the books required will be immediately delivered. The following is a list of courses and times. Currently these courses are only being offered to high school graduates or any tribal members with a valid G.E.D.

This on-line distance education program plan is effective for 1 year upon approval of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council and will be evaluated after each semester.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Human Development Committee and Chief of Staff Mike Flud was very instrumental in preparing this bill for submission to the National Council.

For more information, contact Nathan Anderson, Institute of Distance Education Learning, at (785) 832-6679 or by e-mail at: n-anderson@haskell.edu.



Births

ETHAN TVSTVNVKE BATTIEST

ADA — Ethan Tvstvnke Battiest was born to Vanessa Battiest of Wetumka on April 27 at the Carl Albert Hospital.

He weighed 7 pounds, 3.1 ounces and measuring 18.7 inches in length.

His grandparents are Chris and Yvette Powell.

His great-grandfather is Calvin Battiest of Ada.



Battiest

MALLORY JORDAN RIVAS

OKMULGEE — Mallory Jordan Rivas was born on April 4, 2005 at the Okmulgee Memorial Hospital.

She weighed 7 pounds and 4 ounces and was 18 inches long.

She is the daughter of Victor (Freddy) Rivas and Ashley Bruner.

Maternal grandparents are Emma and William Wind of Houston, Texas and Harry Tulsa of Henryetta. Maternal great grandparents are Rosie Bruner of Henryetta and the late Jackson Bruner. Paternal grandparent is Lena Rivas of Glenpool and the paternal great grandparents are the late Hazel Harrison and Tom Harrison.



Rivas

Birthday

Cloud celebrates first birthday with family and friends

TAHLEQUAH — Sadie Cloud turned one on June 29 and her daddy turned 28 on June 26, 2005. Sadie is the daughter of Shannen James and Dustin Cloud of Tahlequah.

Sadie is the youngest of six siblings, Derek, Destiny, Deborah, Daniel and Christian all of Nuyaka Ceremonial grounds.

She is the granddaughter of Ben Cloud of Bristow and the late Deborah Dilbeck of Fairfax also Calvin and Letha James of Tahlequah. The shared birthday celebration was attended by many friends and family and was held at the Greenleaf State Park.



Cloud

Nutt celebrates 82nd birthday with a wild west theme
GLENPOOL — Martha Nutt celebrated her 82nd birthday on June 28. Martha's children put together a day in the country. Barbecue ribs and all the trimmings, followed with cake full of candles and ice cream were provided.

The day was filled with laughter and love, old memories, friends and family. Horse back riding was provided along with swimming, horse shoes and stories of days gone by.

The evening surrounded by excited talent. Tiki lamps, a home made stage, karaoke and dancing. Martha stayed until the last song was sung and to say good night to all guest.



Nutt

Reneva celebrates her eighth birthday

GRAND LAKE — Katari Iliana Reneva celebrates her eighth birthday at Grand Lake with friends and family. She loves to swim and go fishing and attends stomp dances.

She is the daughter of Susan and Michael Sulphur. Her maternal grandparents are David "Duke" Alexander of Tennessee and Paulette Alexander of MWC. Maternal great grandparents are Linda Alexander of Norman and Andrew Alexander of Seminole.



Reneva

Sumka enjoys early June birthday

HENRYETTA — Rachael Sumka celebrated her birthday on June 8. Rachael enjoyed an elegant dinner with her family and friends. Her husband is Jerry Sumka and her family include Monique, Travis Hawkins, Eric, Allen, Kassey, Erika, Jessie Felix and Delana Bear. Rachael is the daughter of the late Reverend John and Minnie Lowe.

Accomplishments

Roberts placed second at Creek Art Contest

OKMULGEE — Joshua Roberts of Wetumka placed second in the Creek Council Art Contest at the Creek Museum.

His poster consisted of a grandfather telling his grandson to listen (Mapohketv) and learn (Ker'retv) the old ways of the ceremonial ground.

Joshua has been playing stickball since he was three years old. He is an active member of the Sand

Creek Euchee Ceremonial Ground and also is the grandson of the Alabama Ceremonial Ground.

He is a member of the Eco Clan. He is a eighth grade student at Justice Elementary School and was selected out of his class to represent Justice School in the Youth Conference in Washington, D.C.

His parents are Sharon Yargee of Wetumka and Kendall Roberts of Oklahoma City.

Grandparents are Alabama/Quassarte Tribal Town Chief Tarpie Yargee, Amy Yargee, Great grandmother Winey Yargee and grandparents Roy Roberts of Okemah and Velma Coker of Seminole and his great grandmother Stella Roberts.



Roberts

Thomas graduates from University of Oklahoma

NORMAN — Roberta (Robbie) Lynn Thomas graduates from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in Anthropology cum Laude. She is of the Alligator clan and Okfuskee Tribal Town.

Thomas is the daughter of Jim and Lillian Thomas of Okmulgee. She is the granddaughter of the late Jinkie and Lillie Thomas and the late Robert and Norma Thomas.

Her awards include; Dean's Honor Roll; Certificate of Achievement in Anthropology and National Science Foundation Grant in support of research Solomon Islands.

Roberta has been accepted into graduate school at California State University Long Beach.

Wacoche was crowned Miss Bristow Preteen

BRISTOW — Jalena Wacoche was crowned Miss Bristow Preteen on June 12, 2005 at the Bristow Elks Lodge.

She is the daughter of Joanna Wacoche and Granddaughter of Jeanine Wacoche. Jalena is the Great Granddaughter of the late James and Lena Wacoche. She has attended Bristow Schools since preschool. In the fall she will be entering the 7 grade.



Wacoche

In the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

A. D. Ellis, in his official capacity as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation,

Plaintiff

v.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation

National Council,

Defendant

RESPONSE OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO THE PETITION OF A.D. ELLIS, PRINCIPAL CHIEF

COMES NOW the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and for their response shows this Supreme Court that this case should be summarily dismissed and should the Court believe that the issues presented in the petition should be discussed, the National Council shows by the following statements, legal authority, and exhibits submitted herein, that the Principal Chief A.D. Ellis seeks to become all powerful, not accountable to the National Council and the citizens of the Nation, and to interfere in the legislative functions of our government in violation of the principles of separation of powers as embodied in the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. For the sake of efficiency, the National Council will respond directly to the allegations made in the petition of A.D. Ellis and not expand this case, unless necessary, into the motives of the A.D. Ellis in bringing this petition the true motives.

1. Plaintiff opens his petition with paragraph 1 stating that he is presently the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and to this the National Council agrees. Plaintiff also states that all executive power and authority of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is vested in the office of the Principal Chief and the National Council does agree with this statement. Petitioner's paragraph 2 states that the National Council has vested within it through the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation all legislative power and authority, to which statement the National Council agrees.

2. Petitioner's paragraph 3 states that this Court is vested with original jurisdiction to determine Constitutional questions, to which the National Council agrees, however, the second part of Petitioner's paragraph 3 states that this Court has inherent jurisdiction to resolve disputes between the branches of government. To this statement the National Council shows that not all disputes between branches of government should be interfered with by the judicial branch. Justiciability of a controversy is a requirement for jurisdiction. Some issues should be denied judicial review because they present a political question. This Supreme Court has stated: "...the decisions of the United States courts having to do with the historical separation of governmental powers shall apply with equal force to

the government of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation". Beaver v. National Council 1 Okla. Trib. 57, 62 (Muscogee (Creek) 1986). In the federal court system, the political questions which will not be entertained by the courts are those issues constitutionally resting with another branch of government and those that may not be enforced by the judicial process. See O'Brien v. Brown, 409 U.S. 1, 4, 92 S. Ct. 2718, 34 L.Ed.2d 1, 6 (1972). See also, Wright Miller and Cooper, Federal Practice and Procedure: Jurisdiction 2d§3534.

In 1998 this Supreme Court stated:

"This Court should be ever hesitant to interfere in the operations of the Executive and Legislative Branches. In certain situations, the Judiciary has the power to intrude on legislative and executive process, but the exercise of this authority must be marked by respectful constraint, recognizing the status of the Principal Chief and National Council as the other two (2) branches of our Constitutional Government." Burden v. Cox, 1 Okla. Trib. 247, 250-251 (Muscogee (Creek) D.Ct. 1988). The National Council asserts that the matters raised by the A.D. Ellis are political questions. The petition is nothing more than an attempt to obtain power for the Principal Chief from the Supreme Court on issues that had been duly enacted law. The matters complained of by the Principal Chief are the law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation made through the Constitutional process as set out in Art. VI, §6. The Principal Chief does not want to follow the law and cannot bring his lack of legislative support as a problem to this Supreme Court.

3. The National Council fully denies that it has taken actions which exceed its legislative power and authority and infringe upon, interfere with, and usurp plaintiff's executive power and authority in violation of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the doctrine of separation of powers. This Court has previously ruled that ordinances of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation must be followed. See Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Members vs. Claude Cox, Gary Breshears, and Buddy York, CV. 90-01 (Sup. Ct. Muscogee (Creek) Nation).

4. Plaintiff's allegations in his paragraph 4 A complain of a letter date April 27, 2005 to plaintiff from Thomas Yahola, Speaker of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council wherein it is stated:

"Upon the recommendation from the Fact Finding & Investigation Committee to the Council-As-A-Whole, a motion was made, received a second and the motion was carried for you, to do an Evaluation on Claude Sumner, Executive Director".

See this letter marked as Exhibit 1.

This is nothing more than a request, and the National Council certainly does not believe the Principal Chief works for the legislative branch. The Chief would only have to refuse this request instead of bringing the matter to court. There is no case in controversy here and this a political matter that should not be the subject litigation. Should every letter from the Speaker to the Chief of from the Chief to the Speaker be brought to this Supreme Court, there could be a new case filed every week. If the Chief had denied the request, it would be a simple matter for the National Council to invoke its own investigation powers to make its own evaluation. The investigative powers of a legislative branch in a three branch system of government have long been established in federal law. United States Supreme Court has said:

"Although congressional authority to conduct investigations, and in the process to compel testimony, is not explicitly recognized by the Constitution, this power is of course necessary in connection with Congress' quasi-judicial powers of impeachment and self-regulation. But the Supreme Court has quite properly held the investigatory power to be broader, as "an essential and appropriate auxiliary to the legislative function."

See McGrain v. Daugherty, 273 U.S. 135, 174 (1927) emphasis added).

The National Council under legislative investigative powers may request even the Principal Chief to appear before the Full Council or a Council Committee if so desired and obtain any information it needed from him with the only defense of the executive branch being a claim that such request should be denied under the concept of executive privilege, which has been interpreted by the United States Supreme Court to be only that necessary to protect military, diplomatic, or sensitive security secrets. See United States v. Nixon, 418 U.S. 683, 94 S.Ct. 3090, 41 L.Ed.2d 1039 (1974), certiorari denied 431 U.S. 933, 97 S.Ct. 2641, 53 L.Ed.2d 250 (1977), rehearing denied 433 U.S. 916, 97 S. Ct. 2992, 53 L.Ed.2d 1103 (1977). This would be an example of a dispute between the branches of government which could properly be brought to the Supreme Court. The simple letter request at issue here does not rise to the level of Constitutional crisis. The Principal Chief can simply refuse to conduct the evaluation throwing the issue back to the legislative branch for further action. In the present case the National Council denies the plaintiff's allegation and show the court that there is not judicable matter and the claim should be dismissed.

Government

continued from page 4

and to repeal NCA 97-118, NCA 97-98 and reconsideration and approval of NCA 97-89 after veto;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee;

Second Speaker **Richard Berryhill** turned the Chair back to Speaker **Thomas Yahola**;

- approved (19-2-0) NCA 05-106, amending the constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to add a new section 2 to article IX;

voting no were: **Williams**, Okmulgee and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved (20-1-0) NCA 05-107, amending the constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at section 1 of article IX regarding the line of succession of the Principal Chief;

voting no were: **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- failed (16-5-0) NCA 05-108, amending the constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at section 2 to article VI reducing the number of National Council representatives;

voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Jones**, Okmulgee; and **Clegghorn**, Tulsa;

- return to committee (11-10-0) NCA 05-109, authorizing a special appropriation to the Haikey Chapel (U.M.C.) to allow the church at its discretion to do renovations to the Fellowship Hall and church and to add various handicap accessibility improvements to the outside restroom facilities as determined by the churches's governing body;

voting no were: **Tiger**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Jones**, Okmulgee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvptce; **Bible**, Tulsa; and **Clegghorn**, Tulsa;

representative **Quiett** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- approved (15-5-0) NCA 05-110, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the office of the Principal Chief's budget;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvptce; and **Fields**, Tukvptce;

- failed (10-11-0) NCA 05-111, amending NCA 01-183 Muscogee (Creek) Nation code annotated Title 21, "Gaming," Chapter 5, "Rules of operation and general applicability," to allow for the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages at gaming facilities approved by the National Council and duly licensed by the tax commission;

voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvptce; **Fields**, Tukvptce; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- killed (20-1-0) NCA 05-112, enacting a liquor and beverage code and codifying said law in title 36, "taxation and revenue," of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee;

- killed (21-0-0) NCA 05-113, amending NCA 92-14,

Muscogee (Creek) Nation code annotated Title 14, "Crime and punishment," Chapter 2, "Criminal offenses," subchapter 7, "Crimes against public health and safety,; to authorize the sale of liquor and/or beer within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

- approved (20-1-0) NCA 05-114, approving the 2005 Indian Housing plan;

voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh;

- approved (19-2-0) NCA 05-115, authorizing a special appropriation to the American Indian Law Center, Inc. to allow **Tracie Revis**, a Muscogee (Creek) citizen and graduate student, to attend the 2005 prelaw summer institute in Albuquerque, New Mexico;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Fields**, Tukvptce;

- approved as amended (19-2-0) NCA 05-116, authorizing a special appropriation of funds to purchase a van for transportation to be assigned for use by the Weleetka Indian Community;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Clegghorn**, Tulsa;

- approved as amended (21-0-0) NCA 05-117, authorizing a special appropriation of funds to reproduce HIV/AIDS posters by **Dana Tiger** for distribution throughout Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

- approved (21-0-0) NCA 05-118, authorizing an appropriation to fund the costs associated with the quarterly intertribal council meeting of the five civilized tribes;

representative **Gillespie** was excused;

- approved (20-0-0) NCA 05-119, amending NCA 01-136 Title 36, §102b., "definitions" of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation code annotated;

- approved as amended (18-2-0) NCA 05-120, authorizing a special appropriation to **Joseph Meyer** to attend a discipleship program;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee and **Fields**, Tukvptce;

- approved as amended (18-2-0) NCA 05-121, authorizing a special appropriation to the American Legion White-Williams post #10 to assist with constructing a new building;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee and **Bible**, Tulsa;

- tabled until legislation is amended (13-7-0) TR 05-079, confirming **Jack S. Shackelford** as the Chief of Lighthorse Administration;

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Quiett**, Tulsa.

June 16, Emergency session

Absent were: **George Tiger**, Creek District; **Duke Harjo**, Creek District; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee District; **Robert Jones**, Okmulgee District; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvptce District; **Lola Fields**, Tukvptce District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; and **Paula Willits**, Tulsa District;

Second Speaker **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

representatives: **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee arrived during executive session;

In order of business the Council:

National Council went into executive session for discussion on publication and mailing of flyer;

no action was taken.

June 23, Special session

Absent were: **Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Notaro**, McIntosh District; **Jones**, Okmulgee District; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee District; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee District; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Yahola**, Tukvptce District; **Fields**, Tukvptce District; **Bible**, Tulsa District; **Quiett**, Tulsa District; **Hufft**, Tulsa District;

Second Speaker **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

representatives: **Pickering**, McIntosh; and **Chalakee**, District; arrived;

In order of business the Council:

representative **Tiger**, Creek; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **McIntosh**, McIntosh was excused;

National Council went into executive session;

no action was taken.

June 25, Regular session

Absent were: **Williams**, Okmulgee and **Bible**, Tulsa; Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvptce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

Veto Message:

- veto (24-0-0) NCA 05-107, amending the constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at section 1 of article V regarding the line of succession of the Principal Chief;

In order of business the Council:

representative **Jones** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- tabled (22-0-0) TR 05-091, terminating the special services agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker, L.L.P.;

representative **Jones** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- return to committee (22-0-0) TR 05-093, accepting the terms and conditions of the fuelman fleet card agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Fleetcor Technologies, Inc. For Fleetcor to provide Business fleet gasoline services to vehicles owned by the nation;

- approved (19-4-0) TR 05-094, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an agreement with the Oklahoma City Northeast, Inc. for the leasing of office space to benefit the Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Fields**, Tukvptce;

- approved (21-2-0) TR 05-095, authorizing the Principal Chief or his designee to enter negotiations and executive a contract for the purchase of the property, building and inventory of the reil Rock-n-Roller Skating Center;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; and **Golden**, Okfuskee;

Haskell Indian University 1970-1979 Reunion

LAWRENCE, KS. — The 1970-1979 Reunion Committee will be hosting a big celebration during Haskell Indian Nation University's Homecoming on October 21-23. The committee is looking for former Haskell Indian Junior College graduates, students, varsity athletes from the 1970's.

Faculty, staff, alumni, and friends are welcome to attend. Registration is now available on-line at www.haskell.edu/haskell/alumni or you may contact Gloria Graves, Committee President at (785) 749-8470.

Additional information will be sent to those who register. Updated information will be posted on the website.

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Realty Department has scheduled a meeting with Oklahoma Indian Legal Services on Thursday, August 18, starting at 10:00 a.m. Anyone wanting to meet with a representative can call (918) 732-7713 and schedule an appointment.

Senior Services plans to attend elders conference

OKLAHOMA CITY— The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Senior Services is planning to the Annual American Indian Elders Conference in Oklahoma City on September 7 - 9. Senior Services will take care of lodging, transportation and some meals. Senior citizens interested must submit their names for possible selection to the Senior Services Office located in room 108 at the Creek Nation Complex Building.

A second trip is also planned for the Indian Festival at the Ocmulgee National Monument in Macon, Georgia on September 14 - 18.

Deadline to turn in names for both trips is August 19. Itinerary, times, and other details will be announced as they are finalized. Also, a drawing will be held at the Creek Nation Elderly Nutrition Center in Okmulgee, Monday, August 22, at 1:00 p.m. Everyone is welcomed to attend.

Finally, a trip is planned to Cahokia Mounds State Historical Site near Saint Louis, Missouri. The tentative plan is to leave on Friday, September 23, and return Sunday, September 25.

Attendees will tour the historical mounds, witness an atlatl assisted spear throwing contest, and spend two nights in St. Louis. Senior citizens interested must submit their names to Senior Services Office. The deadline for taking names is Friday, September 9. A drawing will be held Monday, September 12. Lodging and meals taken care of by the Senior Services Program.

For more information, contact Jackson Barnett at (918) 732-7723.

Senior Citizen breakfasts and dinners

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Salvation Army Inter-Tribal Native American Senior Citizen Center located at 3416 South Robinson in Oklahoma City invites

all seniors age 55 and older to join them for breakfast on Monday mornings beginning at 10:30 a.m. and for lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. There is also an Indian Taco fund raising every Friday at 11:30 a.m.

The center will also offer a variety of activities, such as Indian bead work during the week as well.

The center director is Carole Hume and Marcella Gooden Owen is the coordinator.

For more information call (405) 636-0260.

School Clothing Program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care will be accepting applications for school clothing assistance running through October 11.

Applicants must be a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and must be enrolled in Head Start through Grade 12. Proof of school enrollment is required.

The following is a list of information that must be submitted for the application to be complete: parent/guardian/primary caregiver must provide one a month current income verification, both incomes if married, which include check stubs or a copy of the first page of your 2004 Income Tax Return (if not married please state this on the application); unemployed applicants must provide a notarized statement; verification of assistance if you are receiving assistance from other agencies because you have no income; if the applicant is not the parent but is acting on behalf of the parent, then documentation in the form of a custody order or a notarized statement from the parent (giving the applicant permission to apply on behalf of the children) must be provided; and copies of each child's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card or a printout from the Citizenship office.

Monies received for school clothing assistance must be used for clothing items and/or shoes only. Only original applications will be accepted, no duplicate copies allowed.

Information regarding an application or payment to an applicant is confidential. Applications will be returned if all documents are not submitted. Approval of applicants also depends on availability of funds.

Applications may be picked up at your nearest tribal community center or call 1-800-205-3705 or 918-732-7680 to request an application by mail. Applications must be mailed to: Muscogee Creek Nation Office of Child Care, P. O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Marshall Family Reunion

WETUMKA — The 15th Annual Marshall Family Reunion is scheduled for September 5, at 11:00 a.m. at Wetumka Baptist Church.

Family members will gather and honor the memory of Lewis and Mandy (Herron) Marshall.

The church is located on Highway 75, 2 miles south and 1 mile east of Wetumka. Lots of fun games and activities are scheduled. Those attending are asked

to bring a covered dish and drinks.

For more information, contact (405) 944-5573, (405) 737-0714, or (405) 204-4913.

Lindsey Family Reunion

HANNA — The descendants of Sarah Lindsey, Tiger Codo Lindsey, and Misko Lindsey will be having a family reunion at the Hannah Indian Community Center on Labor Day, September 5. Lunch will be a pot luck.

Jones Academy Reunion

ANTLERS — The Annual Jones Academy Reunion is scheduled for October 15, starting at 10 a.m. for students that attended Jones up through the year of 1954.

The reunion will end with a gospel singing starting at 7 p.m. in the gymnasium. All singers, listeners, and instrument players are invited to participate. Also, everyone is welcome to join in for supper at 5:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.

For more information, contact James H. Bruner at 508 S. E. 2nd, Antlers OK 74523 or call at (580) 298-3136.

Reunion Dinner

WETUMKA. — The descendants of Tvlwv and Nannie Harjo and Lossana Scott (Waitie, Joseph, Charlie, Steben) are invited to attend a reunion dinner. at the Kialegee family health center on Highway 27 in Wetumka on August 20. The dinner will start at 10 a.m. Those attending are asked to bring a covered dish.

For more information, contact Brent Moffer at (580) 336-7947 or Evelyn Bucktrot at (405) 584-0418.

Potluck Dinner

MUSKOGEE — There will be a pot luck dinner for Wesley Parish at the Muscogee Indian Community Center at 111 S. Virginia, Saturday, August 27 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Clothing for Muscogee

GLENPOOL — The Muscogee Nation has received a donation of two semi-truck loads of clothing that will be distributed at the Glenpool Community Center Building to all Creek citizen households.

Clothing vouchers can be received at Creek clinics, community centers, the Social Services office, Community Research and Development office, and the Food Distribution office.

Clothing will be disbursed August 19 from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. and August 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This disbursement of clothing is not related nor affiliated with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care Clothing Program and is open to all ages, regardless of participation in the school program.

For more information, contact Della Cherry at Community Services at (918) 732-7967.

Chief Ellis uses his power to lead his People.



Use Your Power.

VOTE. 58,904 Mvskoke Etlwv
can make a difference in
our Tribal Election ✓

Etowah Mounds update

CARTERSVILLE, GA — During the month of June 2005, the Cultural Preservation Department was invited to join in a collaborative effort to do remote sensing of the Muscogee (Creek) prehistoric Etowah Mounds. Participants from Creek Nation included: Joyce Bear, Tim Thompson and Johnnie Jacobs. Remote sensing allows researchers to view beneath the earth's surface without disturbing the site.

The head archaeologist of the project was Adam King with the University of South Carolina. Kent Reilly, an archaeologist with West Texas State University and

several of his students, also attended and participated. Kent Schneider and Doug Luepke from the National Forest Service Regional Office in Atlanta, Georgia came to offer their assistance as well.



Pictured are Muscogee (Creek) Nation Staff working with the National Forest Service representatives on setting up grid area to prepare to GPR.

While on site, the Creek Nation Cultural Preservation office staff utilized GPS (Global Positioning System) technology to map areas under investigation. They also used GPR (ground penetrating radar) to locate possible features beneath the earth's surface.

The data will now be processed using the most up to date GPR software available called GPR-SLICE, which will allow the tribe to be able to see a 3-D image of the possible features. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation

was the first Native American tribe in the country to get the GPR-SLICE software. The Cultural Preservation Office hopes to use this software along with the GPR unit to help locate and preserve Creek family cemeteries and graves.



Tim Thompson, right, and a National Forest Service archaeologist await to GPR.



Pictured is Mound B (left) and Mound A (right, larger mound).



Pictured is the Etowah River just south of the site.



Pictured is Mound B (foreground) and Mound C (background)

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation Office

OKMULGEE — The design and operation of the Cultural Preservation Office is to conduct the documentation and preservation projects necessary for sustaining an integrated culture.

Under the direction of the Office of Cultural and Historical Preservation Office, the Muscogee Nation Library/Archives addresses the research and information needs of both citizens and noncitizens engaging in serious inquiry into Muscogee culture and history.

The Library/Archives houses a collection of over 1,600 volumes of reference materials, an almost complete set of Bureau of American Ethnology reports and bulletins. 730 reels microfilmed records of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation from 1828 to 1840. Included in the collections are the Final Dawes Rolls of the Five Civilized Tribes,

the Grant Forman Collection of Oklahoma Pioneer Histories.

Also, in a special collection are the private letters of Pleasant Porter, the Principal Chief of the Muscogee Nation during the Allotment Act in early 1900's. Due to the fragile condition, one of a kind, or limited availability of most works, all Muscogee Nation Library/Archival collections are non-circulating.



Cultural Preservation Library

Translations may be prepared, as time permits, by office staff who are fluent in the Muscogee language.

For more information about the Cultural Preservation Office, call (918) 732-7731 or (800) 482-1979 ext. 7731, by e-mail at preservation@muscogeenation-nsn.gov, or the Muscogee Nation website at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Celebrating Muscogee (Creek) traditions

MUSKOGEE — The Five Civilized Tribes Museum will be "Celebrating Muscogee (Creek) Traditions" on September 5-10. Members of the Muscogee (Creek) Tribe will demonstrate traditional art and craft items, share history of the tribe and have items for sale.

The Museum is located at Agency Hill on Honor Heights Drive. For more information, call the Museum at (918) 683-1701.

Ocmulgee Indian Celebration

MACON, GA — The Ocmulgee Indian Celebration honors the heritage of the Southeast's indigenous people, especially the Muscogee (Creek).

Hundreds of dancers, storytellers, musicians and artists gather at the monument for a weekend of sharing culture. All five cultures from the five civilized tribes of the Southeast come together to share friendship dances.

The celebration will take place on September 16 through 18 at the Ocmulgee National Monument. The cost to attend the celebration is \$5 for adults. For more information, call visitor information at (478) 752-8257.

Husband and wife host second year of Vacation Bible School

SAPULPA — Pastor Alan Pulver and his wife, Betty of Morningstar Fellowship just concluded its second year of hosting a Vacation Bible School (VBS) for the summer. Al and Betty, VBS directors, and thirty-seven children, mostly Native American children, represented many tribes such as Sac and Fox, Euchee, Comanche, Muscogee, Cherokee, Apache, and Choctaw.

The children read stories from the Bible and completed scripture memorization from Joshua 1:17 and Joshua 1:9 to highlight this year's theme of "The Lord's Army." One project in arts and crafts times was the making of praise sticks that the children used to open praise and worship times. The children lined up outside the church and marched into the classroom just like Joshua's army in the Bible. Then they recited a daily pledge of allegiance to the Christian flag, American flag, the Holy Bible and the Lord's Prayer.

Another project emphasized the importance of sowing seed (love and acceptance) in the Kingdom of God and how it relates the development of a mature plant (child) when watered and cared for.

Morning prayer opened and concluded the sessions, and there were arts and crafts projects such as birdhouses, jewelry boxes, model cars, and picture frames.

There was even an all night camp out on the church grounds, and a day of fun at Hayburn Lake. It was an eventful and fun-filled four weeks for the children, teachers and volunteers: Sonya Hooper, Loretta Freeman, David Foster, and Aubrey Freeman, and was visited by Choctaw Princess, Vanessa Jefferson, age 12. Each child that participated in

this year's VBS received a certificate of award for a job well done.

The staff and volunteers at Morningstar Fellowship were excited about being able to host another year of VBS. "We want our community to be able to provide a safe and fun place for the children, where they can learn some basic truths from the Bible while having fun and interacting with other children, as well as meeting some of the spiritual needs of families, especially Native American families," stated Betty Pulver. "Families need to feel supported, and we feel that projects such as the Morningstar VBS served some of these needs for families in the Sapulpa, Bristow, Kellyville and Hectorville areas."

Pastor Alan and Betty have a vision to expand the services of the local church to build a campsite to host other church-related events such as VBS at a property located in Tahlequah. The Pulvers envision cabins with modern conveniences for families

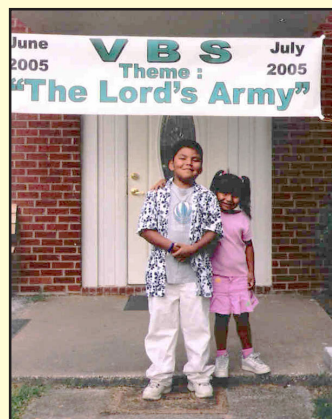
to spend quality family time together, however, it takes building materials and supplies for housing the families, and volunteers such as carpenters, plumbers, electricians, etc. to help with the projects. By sharing this vision with the community and letting the needs of Morningstar Fellowship be known, let those that have a

heart to volunteer or make donations, (which is strictly a volunteer basis), help make this vision a reality.

For more information on the Tahlequah project, contact Allen or Betty Pulver at (918) 227-1508, or visit Morningstar Fellowship at 722 N. Hodge, Sapulpa, Oklahoma, 74067.



Pictured (left to right): Betty Pulver and Patricia Kaseca



Pictured (left to right): Elijah and Taylor Hooper

Oklahoma Indian Women's Conference

TULSA — The 15th Annual Oklahoma Indian Women's Conference will be held September 16 and 17. The theme for this year's conference is "Walking as the King's Daughter."

Friday's activities will be held at Bowen Indian Baptist Church with worship and fellowship beginning at 7 p.m. The church is located at 1515 E. Independence.

The conference continues on September 17 with all activities taking place at Arrow Heights Baptist Church, 3201 South Elm Place in Broken Arrow. The Welcome and Praise and Adoration will begin at 8:30 a.m.

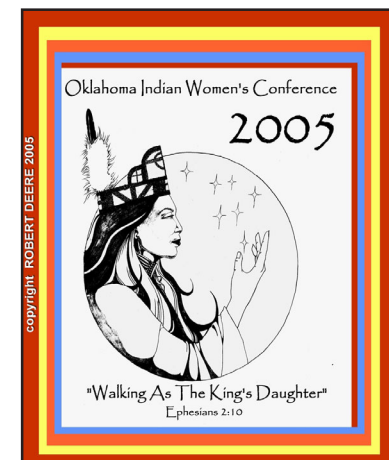
Seminars for women of all ages will be from 8:55 until 11 a.m. The morning seminars include: Being a Woman of Strength and Wisdom; Empty Nest Syndrome; Finding God's Mate; Fruits of the Spirit; If Mama ain't happy - Ain't nobody happy; Making a difference and Teaching Adult Literacy. After a joint worship service and lunch the seminars will resume at 1 p.m. The afternoon seminars include: Angel Ministry; Mirroring your Image; The King's Daughter and her Money; Prayer Walking as The King's Daughter and Princess to Princess. The conference will conclude with tea and testimony fellowship at 4 p.m.

Early bird registration for the conference must be postmarked or received by August 31 to: Oklahoma Indian Women's Conference (OIWC), P.O. Box 580351, Tulsa, OK 74158-0351. The cost is \$20 by check or money order made payable to: Bowen Indian Baptist Church, Attn. 2005 OIWC. Women ages 70 and older the registration is free.

On September 17, door registration for the conference is \$25 (cash only) and registration begins at 7:30 a.m. If you would like to attend the afternoon session only, the cost is \$15 after 1 p.m.

For more information, call Theresa Hinman at (918) 724-1952 for registration, Heather James at (918) 724-0337 for lodging or Raquel Banks at (918) 313-2903 for directions.

If you would like to have your church events announced, mail them to *Muscogee Nation News*, Attention: Jennifer, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447, fax at (918) 758-0824 or e-mail at jtaryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.



2005 Oklahoma Indian Women's Conference Poster

2005 Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference Appointments

ANTLERS — The following appointments were made at the 2005 Annual Conference Session of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference of The United Methodist Church, held June 9-12.

- Arbeka/Seminole Hitchitee – Rev. Abe Jackson
- Big Cussetah TBS – Nelson Scott Harjo, Sr. Lay Missioner
- Broken Arrow – Rev. Lynn Tosee
- Choska/Mutteloke – Rev. Michael Eddy
- Concharty/Honey Creek – Newman Frank, Jr. Lay Missioner
- Davis Chapel – Rev. Ben Ewing
- Fife Memorial – Rev. Anita Phillips
- Grant Chapel TBS – Walter McGirt
- Haikey Chapel/Springtown – Rev. July Tecumseh
- Kaney Chapel TBS – Hazel Battice, Lay Missioner
- Little Cussetah – Rev. Judy Aaron
- Nagawee – Rev. Becky McMillan
- Newtown – Rev. June Thomas
- Pickett Chapel – Rev. William Foote, Sr.
- Salt Creek/Wewoka – Rev. James Smith
- Springfield/Thlopthlocco – Rev. Rachel Boyiddle
- Thewarley/Yeager – Rev. David Dunson
- Tulsa Indian – Rev. Jerry Byrd

American Dream Giveaway a success

TULSA — The Tulsa Casino gave one lucky man the American Dream in it's American Dream Giveaway on Thursday, July 28. The American Dream was a new house, located in south Tulsa, a 2005 Ford Escape, a 2005 Lincon LS, and \$10,000. A prize totalling \$250,000.

The excitement had been building, throughout all of Tulsa as the day for the Giveaway drew nearer. The excitement was exceptionally obvious on Thursday night when the Casino's parking lot was full, it's other parking lot was full, and people were still coming in in droves for a chance.

Casino security was on hand directing traffic and of course providing security.

The true number of people present, while initially hinted at by the fact that even the casino's over flow parking lot had filled, and was overflowing to a second over flow parking lot, was only re-

inforced by arriving at the door, only to discover that the building was at max capacity and there were still hundreds of people waiting at the door anxiously wanting to get in.



Gerald P. of Tulsa, left, with Jennifer Cross of the Tulsa Casino after winning the American Dream Giveaway.

The initial contest was a drawing of names, 10 names were pulled, and each contestant that showed up within 15 minutes was given a key. However, almost unbelievably, 4 people did not show up in the time allotted and so there were 4 more names drawn. This time there would need no more names called.

Once the ten contestants were at the front, they were grouped with five lucky winners of radio contests and each assigned a number. Then, in order, they drew a key out of a box and tried it in the door, and who drew the key that opened the door, won the American Dream. The winning key was drawn by Gerald P. of Tulsa.

Table games open on Muskogee Casino's 12th Anniversary

MUSKOGEE — The Muskogee Casino held its Grand Opening for the Table Games, as well as it's 12th Anniversary on Saturday, July 23.

Numerous special events took place, including \$5 in free blackjack chips for every Cache Card member, free soft drinks and snacks for Cache Card members, and bonus prizes on blackjack games and to the player with the best poker hand each



Pictured above is tribal officials, casino personnel, and gaming board members.

On hand was Sandra Parish, one of the National Council Representatives from Muskogee, along with several other tribal officials.

Among the prizes given away, there were two big screen televisions, cash prizes of course, including a \$1,000 prize for the winner of the match play tournament, and \$500 for the best poker hand of the day.

\$170,000 MYSTERY CASH FALL BASH

TULSA — \$170,000 is up for grabs this fall at Creek Nation Casino in Tulsa. Starting September 1st at 7 am, Players Club members may swipe their cards daily for entries. Progressive cash drawings will be held each Monday through Thursday at 10 am, 1 pm, 4 pm, 7 pm, and 10 pm. At the time of each drawing, \$100, \$200, \$300, \$400, or \$500 in cash will be drawn to determine the amount of the drawing, including any unclaimed jackpot money from the previous drawing. How much will go each day, who knows?

That's why you must stop in to win! If the prize is unclaimed, the amount will roll over to that time slot the following day and continue to grow. Grand Prize drawings will take place at the same time as the Daily Prize drawings; however, a minimum of \$3,000 in cash will be added to each jackpot. These drawings at the end of the month must go, and the contest will start over in October and November.

The next Grand Prize Drawing will be September 29 for \$25,000 total.

Gaming Authority Board thanks volunteers

OKMULGEE — The Gaming Operations Authority Board would like to publicly recognize and commend those Gaming Security Officers for their participation in the Muskogee Creek Nation's Festival Parade. It was their first time taking part in the parade, and they can be proud, as we are. The officers not only prepared the float and took part in the parade, but did it all voluntarily, donating both their time and their own funds for the project. All six casinos were represented.

The officers assisting in the preparations were Dustin Golightly and Brian Harjo of Tulsa, Robby Sorenson of Duck Creek, John Wolfe of Okemah, Cindy Golightly of Okmulgee, and Earl Kelly, Mark Mooney, and Terry Thompson.

The officers who took part in the parade were Robby Sorenson of Duck Creek, Mitchell Girty of Eufaula, Judith Bigpond from Muskogee, John Hicks of Okemah, Randy Hulbutta of Okmulgee, and Earl Kelly, Mark Mooney, and Reggie Scott.

The Gaming Authority Board would also like to say thank you to all of the traditionally dressed young ladies who rode on the float.

Construction update of Tulsa Casino

TULSA — The Muskogee Nation Development committee for the new casino at the Mackey Sandbar in Tulsa has provided an update on the construction of the new casino.

On Wednesday, July 13, a very important meeting was held with the following and their consultants: City of Tulsa / Public Works, Corp. of Engineers, INCOG, Hydrology, Environmental and Traffic Engineering. The purpose of the meeting was to review the status of work over the past year with these agencies and format a road map of that work into a package that can be submitted to decision making agencies.

Due to the fact that the Mackey Sandbar borders the Arkansas River, the following topics required extensive planning, preparation, study, work, coordination, and negotiation in order to advance the project while preserving the Nation's sovereignty. The topics discussed were: flood plain management, 404 permitting issues, flood plain development permit, storm water development permit, FEMA mapping, Earth change permit, environmental permitting issues, traffic permitting issues, storm water detention, water supply, sanitary sewer connections, and Vision 2025 Conceptual Plan Development.

As you can see a lot goes into a project before the ground breaking can actually occur. Due to the prior planning and preparation, we at the Muskogee Nation Development Committee feel that we are right on task with all issues. None of the topics discussed presented any issues or concerns that would cause us to extend our overall schedule.

Division of Health

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for qualified individuals for the following positions:

Public Health Nurse - Okmulgee:

Requirements: Incumbent must be a graduate of an accredited professional school of nursing. Two years of relevant experience in the field of Public Health. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by the State of Oklahoma for Registered Nursing (prefer BSN), or Diploma, or an AD nurse.

Van Driver (2 positions):

Muskogee ENP and Twin Hills ENP (Part Time)

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Incumbent must possess a current food handler's permit. An excellent driving record is required. Valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

CEO - Creek Nation Health System:

Requirements: Academic training through the Masters level in one of the public or allied health sciences, Business or Management fields. Substantial experience managing public health programs which encompasses work in the following direct health care activities; Hospital/Ambulatory Care, Preventative/Rehabilitation/Contract Health services.

In addition candidates must clearly show demonstrated ability to work with health care professional organizations at the State or National level. Evidence of an extensive amount of professional development and accomplishments as evidenced by promotions, career broadening assignments, demonstrated ability in public and professional presentations, active participation in professional organizations recipient of award of honors from nationally recognized associations for excellence and/or outstanding contributions to the field.

Staff Dentist (Part-Time) - Sapulpa:

Requirements: A DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a certificate from an accredited General Practice Residency program. Licensure or ability to be licensed to practice dentistry in a state, territory or commonwealth of the United States, or in the District of Columbia. One year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three additional years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated

in the educational requirements.

Grant Writer:

Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with emphasis in Finance, Marketing, Communications, Journalism, or related area of study is preferred. An Associated Degree is required. A minimum of three years of relevant experience is preferred. An equivalent amount of experience may be substituted for educational requirement.

Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Health System Administrator - CNCH:

Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Management, or related field of study is required. A Master's Degree (MPH) in a related field is preferred. A minimum of two years of experience in the health care management / administration field is required, preferably in a tribal environment.

CHR Generalist: - 2 Positions

Wagoner County, Hughes County

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalency is required. One year relevant experience. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable. This position requires the employee to maintain a residential telephone. Residence in or near Wagoner County is highly desirable.

LPN - Sapulpa:

Requirements: Graduation from an accredited practical nursing curriculum is required. One year relevant experience as a member of a nursing team. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by the State of Oklahoma for Practical Nursing and current CPR certification.

Clinical Nurse Specialist - Sapulpa:

Requirements: Graduation from an accredited professional program for advanced registered nursing practitioners as Clinical Nurse Specialist. One year relevant experience is required. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by Oklahoma Board of Nursing.

Statistical Officer/Epidemiologist:

Requirements: A Master's Degree in Public Health Administration (MPH) or related field is preferred. A minimum of two years experience related to statistical analysis.

Secretary-Contract Health Services:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalency is required. One year relevant ex-

perience in a medical business office or related experience. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Billing Supervisor:

Requirements: Bachelors Degree in Accounting, Finance, or related field is preferred. With a Bachelors Degree 2 years of related experience is required. Education requirements may be substituted with ten years of relevant experience. CPA is not necessary but would benefit the potential candidate.

Pediatric Dental Assistant:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion of training from an accredited school as a Dental Assistant and/or Certificates of Training received from the Oklahoma State Board of Dentistry or IHS is preferred but not required. One year of relevant experience as a dental assistant. Certification / Permit or be eligible to assist D. D. S. in administering Nitrous Oxide is required.

Incumbent must complete the requirements necessary to obtain certification to administer Nitrous Oxide within six months upon hiring or closest test date after six months.

Medical Records Clerk (Sapulpa)

2 Positions

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. One year relevant experience is preferred.

Community Diabetes Dietitian - Sapulpa:

Requirements: Bachelors Degree in health education, health communications or related with (5) years of relevant experience working in communities is required. Masters Degree is preferred. With a Masters Degree, relevant community work experience is required.

Incumbent must be a Registered Dietitian LD/RD and certified as a Diabetes Educator. Incumbent must also possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable

Procurement Clerk:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Associates Degree in related field of study is preferred. One (1) year experience in same or related field. Additional related experience may be substituted for education requirement.

Government

continued from page 9

- approved (23-0-0) TR 05-099, confirming the nomination of **Pete G. Coser** to serve as director of the Division of Human Development;
- approved (22-0-1) TR 05-100, confirming the renomination of **Amos McNac** for appointment to serve as a justice of the supreme court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; abstain were: **Golden**, Okfuskee;
- approved (23-0-0) TR 05-102, approving lighthouse policies and procedures;
- approved (22-0-1) TR 05-104, confirming the renomination of **Houston I. Shirley III** for appointment to serve as a justice of the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; abstain were: **Golden**, Okfuskee;
- approved (23-0-0) TR 05-105, approving the Muscogee (Creek) Nation diabetes program and authorizing said program to make an application for an Indian Health service grant in order to promote health and prevent disease;
- approved (23-0-0) TR 05-107, renominating **Robyn K. Culley** to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems Board of Directors;
- approved (23-0-0) TR 05-108, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a temporary operating permit with Okmulgee County 4-H for the operation of a temporary fireworks sales facility on tribal trust land;
- approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-103, amending NCA 04-151 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation establishing the Oklahoma Tribal University Board of Regents and codifying said law in Title 18, "education," of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation) to have the tribal college name to be amended to college of the Muscogee Nation;
- approved as amended (20-3-0) NCA 05-109, authorizing a special appropriation to the Haikey Chapel (U.M.C.) to allow the church at its discretion to do renovations to the Fellowship Hall and church and to add various handicap accessibility improvements to the outside restroom facilities as determined by the church's governing body;
- voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Berryhill**, Wagoner;
- approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-126, appropriation to purchase air-conditioning units for the elders of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and for Muscogee (Creek) families with children who are prone to respiratory illness;
- failed (11-12-1) NCA 05-127, amending NCA 01-183, Muscogee (Creek) Nation code annotated title 21, "gaming," Chapter 5, "Rules of operation and general applicability," to allow for the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages at only those certain gaming facilities approved by the National Council and duly licensed by the tax commission;
- voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Jones**, Okmulgee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvptce; **Yahola**, Tukvptce; **Fields**, Tukvptce; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; **Gillespie**;
- abstain were: **Chalakee**, Okmulgee;
- killed (23-0-0) NCA 05-128, amending NCA 92-14, Muscogee (Creek) Nation code annotated title 14, "Crime

and punishment," chapter 2, "Criminal Offenses," subchapter 7, "crimes against public health and safety." To authorize the sale of liquor and/or beer within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at the Muskogee, Okmulgee, and Tulsa Gaming Facilities only;

- return to committee (23-0-0) NCA 05-133, appropriating funds for distance education through Wes Watkins technology center and Haskell Indian Nation for Muscogee (Creek) students;
- approved (16-7-0) NCA 05-134, authorizing a special appropriation to assist a Muscogee (Creek) citizen with funding for a trip to England to sing Native Hymns as part of the Native Praise Choir;
- voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Jones**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvptce; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;
- representative **Tiger** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;
- approved as amended (18-5-0) NCA 05-136, appropriating funds to the Eufaula Indian Community to purchase and upgrade property for skating facility;
- voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;
- tabled (22-0-0) NCA 05-137, amending NCA 04-010 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds to build a new community center for the Eufaula Indian Community) to change the location of said community center;
- tabled (23-0-0) NCA 05-138, amending NCA 04-004 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation repealing NCA 94-10 (substitute) and establishing a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System) and reassigning the authority for the administration of finance and accounting from the division of Health Administration to the controller's office within the executive branch;
- return to committee (23-0-0) NCA 05-139, authorizing a special appropriation to establish a social security assistance program and to create the position of social security liaison coordinator through the Muscogee (Creek) Nation social services department;
- approved as amended (22-1-0) NCA 05-140, authorizing the purchase of an 18' by 21' carport for the Wetumka Elderly Community Center;
- voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee;
- approved as corrected (23-0-0) NCA 05-141, authorizing a special appropriation for the repair and replacement of necessary components of the electrical system at Hickory Ceremonial Grounds;
- approved (20-3-0) NCA 05-142, appropriating matching funds for the Eufaula Indian Community casino expansion project;
- voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee;
- approved (22-1-0) NCA 05-144, authorizing a special appropriation to the Northwest Methodist District Center in Preston, Oklahoma for needed facility repairs, security gates and a tractor lawn mower;
- voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee;
- approved (19-4-0) NCA 05-146, appropriating funds

to lease office space and for moving expenses for the Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Ade**, Tukvptce; **Fields**, Tukvptce;

representative **Barnett** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• postponed (22-0-0) NCA 05-147, repealing NCA 93-67 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating and authorizing expenditure of matching funds H.U.D. CDBG block grant B-02-SR-40-0012)

• approved as amended (23-0-0) NCA 05-148, authorizing a special appropriation for Tribal Johnson O'Malley program to convert the Challenge Bowl study guides to digital format and place the materials on CD-Roms;

• approved as amended (23-0-0) NCA 05-149, appropriating funds to the church and ceremonial grounds grant program for the remainder of FY 2005;

• approved (21-2-0) NCA 05-150, authorizing an expansion to the Okemah Casino and authorizing the Principal Chief to utilize revenues from the Okemah Casino to fund half of the expansion costs;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; and **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• approved as amended (23-0-0) NCA 05-151, amending the Muscogee (Creek) Nation constitution at article VI, section 2(a), by referendum vote, to allow staggered terms of office for National council members;

representative **Chalakee** was excused;

• approved (21-0-1) NCA 05-152, authorizing a special appropriation of funds to a Muscogee (Creek) family for financial assistance to attend the National Indian Youth Police Academy Graduation in Appleton, Wisconsin;

abstain were: **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

Moore

continued from page 3

used this method to select leaders of the Iroquois Confederacy.

Another tradition of the Sachems is alive and well today in the United States Senate, for when a Native American member of the Iroquois Confederacy was elected to the National Council as a Sachem his old name was lost and he acquired a new one based upon his office title. Today the rules of the United States Senate do not permit the use of names, all senators must be addressed as the Senior Senator from Oklahoma "or Athe Junior Senator from Oklahoma". Titles such as A Majority Leader, "or Mr. Chairman," may be used, but use of personal names during proceedings is not allowed and strictly forbidden.

The Native American governments exposed early European settlers to the principals of free speech, free thinking, tolerance for religious differences plus participation in government by both men and women. The right of self-determination, government by the people, consent to be governed, a two house congress, veto and override, treaties are only entered into by the federal government not states, treaties are the supreme law of the land, treaty process was clearly defined, and Presidential powers spelled, all of these important controls are contained in the U.S. Constitution courtesy Native American governments.

Five hundred years ago Europeans did not discover America they discovered civilization and democracy and what an impact on the world.

Legal

continued from page 8

5. In his paragraph 4 B the plaintiff A.D. Ellis makes a request for the court to impose itself into the internal procedures of the legislative branch of government. This is a political question and should be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction and judiciability. There is no question raised here on constitutionality or separation of powers, only a complaint by the Principal Chief as to the internal procedures of the legislative branch. This request of A.D. Ellis ignores the basic tenants of separation of powers.

“The Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation divides the government into three (3) separate branches, Executive, Legislative, and Judicial, and except as provided for in the Constitution, these three (3) department are separate and distinct, and neither shall exercise the powers properly belonging to either of the others”.

See *Burden v. Cox*, 1 Okla. Trib.247, 251 (Muscogee (Creek) D.Ct. 1988).

In this same case this court clearly stated: “The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution empowers the National Council to determine its rules and proceedings, but its rules cannot ignore Constitutional restraints”. Id. at 252.

The plaintiff does not nor can be allege any Constitutional violations in his paragraph 4 B, that is complaining about the internal agenda and discussion of the National Council. Art. V, §4 of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizes the Principal Chief as follows: “He may on extraordinary occasions convene the Muscogee (Creek) National Council”. This does not authorize the Principal Chief to be the Speaker of the National Council, direct National Council staff, control the printing of agendas, or dictate the discussions of the legislative branch. It is implicit in this Constitutional Clause that the Chief may present matters he deems extraordinary to the National Council. However, how the National Council convenes and how they act when they convene is a legislative function. It would be a clear violation of the separation of powers doctrine if the Supreme Court or the Principal Chief could enter into the internal workings of the legislative branch and order the legislature to behave according to the rules of another branch. The Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation does not say that the Principal Chief may do anything but convene the National Council on extraordinary occasions. To impute any additional authority to the executive branch would be dangerous precedent. We are not addressing the issue of what constitutes “extraordinary” in this case as it is not a present issue. Of great concern is the request by A.D. Ellis to expand the authority of the Principal Chief to

more than that as strictly allowed by Art.V, §4 of the Constitution. To agree with A.D. Ellis on this matter could lead to disastrous consequences, such as having the Chief convene an extraordinary session every day, and to controlling the agenda at these extraordinary sessions. Such power would effectively destroy the three branch system of government. There is nothing in the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that prohibits the National Council from discussion matters in their own forum is addition to the message of the Chief. As this Supreme Court has said:

“In *Bill Burden v. Principal Chief, Claude Cox*, CV-88-08 the Court stated “that the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation must be strictly construed and interpreted and where the Constitution speaks in the plain language with reference to a particular matter, the Court must not place a different meaning on the words”.

Claude A. Cox, Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Frank E. Kamp, McIntosh District Representative of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, SC-91-03 (Jun. 27, 1991).

The National Council attaches as its Exhibit 2 all the agendas and minutes of every extraordinary session called by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis since his taking office. As may be seen by the record, when the Principal Chief has convened the National Council, the matters he has requested has been discussed. At such extraordinary sessions the Principal Chief does not preside over the National Council because that authority is exercised by the Speaker, or in his absence, the Second Speaker. To allow him now to control the internal agenda and discussion of the legislative branch would assist him in becoming nothing less than dictator.

The National Council has given due respect to the Office of the Principal Chief by complying with his request to convene as a legislative body. It has never waived its rights to conduct its own business under its own rules. This is a political question and non-judicable. This allegation should be dismissed.

6. Plaintiff’s paragraph 4 C complaints about certain duly enacted laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Title 30§3-104. Tribal officers and staff; required attendance states:

“Upon the written request of the National Council through the Speaker, all Tribal Officers and Management Staff will be required to report to any scheduled National Council meeting, as requested, for the purpose of submitting to questions by the members of the National Council”.

This legislation was enacted by NCA 93-114 §104, approved Aug. 13, 1993 and amended by NCA 95-71, approved July 3, 1995. A copy of this law is attached hereto as Exhibit 3.

Also in his paragraph 4 C in his petition A.D. Ellis complains about other laws of the Nation, these being Title 30 §§8-101 and 8-102. A copy of these laws are attached hereto as Exhibit 4. These duly enacted ordinances of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are codified and state:

§8-101. Jurisdiction.

For purposes of this chapter the National Council shall have jurisdiction over:

- A. All elected officers of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
- B. All employees of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
- C. All persons who have entered into a contract to do business with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

[NCA 89-74, §102, veto overridden June 24, 1989.]

§8-102. Contempt by officers or employees.

A. 1. Persons who are required to comply with provisions of the Title 30, §3-104 and fail to do so shall be in contempt of the National Council.

2. Elected officers or employees of the Muscogee (Nation who are subpoenaed to appear before the National Council, or any Committee thereof, to provide information and fail to do so shall be deemed to be in contempt of the National Council.

B. 1. Contempt of the National Council by elected officers of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be handled in accordance with provisions of Title 31, §1-101 et seq. (Removal of Officers and Representatives from Office).

2. Contempt of the National Council by employees of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall result in:

a. First offense: Employee shall be suspended, without pay, for five (5) working days.

b. Second offense: Employee shall be terminated and shall not be eligible for employment with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for one (1) year.

[NCA 89-74 §§ 103, 104, 106, 107, veto overridden June 24, 1989.]

The inherent power of the legislative branch in a three branch system to investigate and compel attendance of persons before it has been discussed above. The United States federal courts have longed upheld the legislative powers in this regard and have not interfered with the legislative powers which are deemed essential for a functioning government. The United States Supreme Court has held that the investigatory power is very broad, as “an essential and appropriate auxiliary to the legislative function, “making it implicit in the United States Constitution’s Article I, §1 grant of “legislative Powers” to Congress”. See *McGrain v. Daugherty*, 273

Native American Master Artist tours “First in Series” HIV/AIDS Poster

TAHLEQUAH — Celebrated Native American artist, Dana Tiger the member of the National HIV/AIDS Partnership (NHAP), is scheduled to appear at several Native American Powwows and festivals this summer to debut the poster she created as the first in a series of original artwork to promote NHAP's HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention messages and the CDC National AIDS Hotline number.

Tiger introduced her poster by signing and distributing copies to attendees at the 22nd Annual Gathering of Nations Powwow in Albuquerque, April 28-30, 2005. She continues to do likewise for attendees at such summer events

as the Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival and the Creek Nation Festival, held in Oklahoma this June.

Printed with funding by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the poster delivers a powerful HIV/AIDS message: “It’s Not Over.” The message speaks to the con-



Tiger autographs posters

tinuing 40,000 new HIV infections that are estimated to occur annually in the United States and the alarming reality that AIDS is a leading cause of death for Americans age 25-44.

According to Tiger, “It’s up to each member of the Native American community to speak out to help end the toll this disease is taking on our families. I have watched my own sister in her struggle with AIDS, and made a personal promise to use every available platform to open the dialogue necessary for action.”

A member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and of Seminole and Cherokee descent, Tiger is best known for her paintings portraying the strength and determination of Native American women. From the beginning, her one-woman shows have been sellouts, establishing her as one of America’s leading contemporary artists.

An advocate for the rights of women and minorities, especially Native Americans, Tiger was inducted into the Oklahoma Women’s Hall of Fame in 2001, and

was named a Master Artist by the Five Civilized Tribes Museum. In 2001, she founded Legacy Cultural Learning Community, an organization that brings art and cultural programs to Native youth, with an emphasis on learning tribal languages. Original artwork posters targeted to other audiences,

including African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Asian and Pacific Islander are planned for introduction later this year. Award-winning pencil artist, John Nelson, is currently developing a poster for the African American community.

The National HIV/AIDS Partnership is comprised of influential leaders helping to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the

United States. NHAP seeks to engage leaders from a variety of industry sectors—business, labor, media, healthcare, entertainment, faith-based, philanthropic, and civic/social organizations—to participate and implement activities to reduce barriers to early diagnosis of HIV infections and increase access to quality medical care, treatment, and ongoing prevention services. At the heart of this collaboration is the belief that all industry sectors must get involved to help stop the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States.



Chief Ellis thanks Tiger for her outstanding work

Tobacco Prevention launches Adult Tobacco Survey to represent Creek citizens

OKMULGEE — Last year, the Tobacco Prevention Program launched its efforts to conduct the Adult Tobacco Survey (ATS). Due to time restraints such as the fiscal year ending and awaiting approval from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) the survey did not get underway. During that waiting time, further preparation yielded exceptional results to get the survey started. This is the first tribe-specific Adult Tobacco Survey conducted in Oklahoma. So in case you haven’t heard, the Adult Tobacco Survey is here and is being conducted at this time.

Through the months of June and September, Interviewers may be calling or coming by your residence anticipating your participation. The survey will be conducted throughout the Creek Nation boundaries, which covers the following counties: Creek, Tulsa, Rogers, Mayes, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okmulgee, Okfuskee, Hughes and Seminole. The following Interviewers will be conducting the surveys: Debbie Ridge, Shirley Almerigi, Sandra Johnson, LuAllyn McCoy, Bill Breckinridge, Victoria Mills, Arharlock Buckley, Misty Buckley and Dorothy Burden. The interviewers are working hard to complete 400 surveys within the Creek Nation counties but have run into numerous problems.

From their lists of participants, a number of them have either moved, are deceased, or refuse to take the survey. This confidential survey is intended for smokers, as well as nonsmokers, former smokers and someday smokers. Regardless of your experience with commercial or traditional tobacco use, if you have been selected to participate in the survey, you may be contacted. The Tobacco Prevention Program asks that you not refuse the survey, as you will be compensated for your time and contribution. You will receive a \$25 Wal-Mart gift certificate and can be assured that your answers will be kept confidential. The only other contact you may receive from the Tobacco Prevention Program or your Interviewer will be to confirm that the survey was conducted and/or to verify your address or phone number. You will not be added to a list of any kind and will not be contacted as any part of a tele-marketing scheme. The Tobacco Prevention Program takes pride in the Creek citizens and will not be able to view your answers or directly relate you to the surveys taken.

At this time, the survey period is halfway complete. With your input, the survey will assist in developing programs for the Muscogee people such as pregnant women who smoke, former smokers who want to

stay smoke-free and preventing nonsmokers and our youth from starting. The Tobacco Prevention Program’s Adult Tobacco Survey intends to represent our Creek citizens throughout the spectrum and deliver assistance to those who choose to take part. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Julie Looney, Interviewer Supervisor or Dotson Frank, Project Coordinator at (918) 756-6231.

Okmulgee Indian Health Center Dental Clinic receives Service Award for third straight year

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Okmulgee Indian Health Center Dental Clinic has won the Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service 2004 Award for Providing Service to the Highest Proportion of the User Population for a Tribal Facility. The award was accepted by Dr. Ronald Harrison, Chief Dental Officer, at the Oklahoma City Area Annual Dental Meeting held June 15-17. This is the third year the Okmulgee Dental Clinic has received this award, having won the same award in 2002 and 2003.

Routine plumbing maintenance for homeowners

PLUMBING

Unclogging Drains

Drains always seem to back up at least convenient times, so be prepared. Basic tools to have on hand include a plunger, chemical drain cleaners, and the drain auger.

Using a Drain Auger

Feed a drain auger through the drain and use patience to guide it past bends in the pipe. If this doesn't work, try snaking it through the soil stake, main cleanout, or house trap.

Using Chemicals

Use chemical drain cleaners sparingly. They can damage your pipes and can be hard on the environment.

Use only in a well ventilated room and don't let chemicals come in contact with your skin, even when diluted with water. Never use the plunger and chemicals in combinations:

Caustic water could splash your skin. Wear rubber gloves and eye protection; read all the labels and follow directions carefully. Some products are alkalis that cut grease; others are acids that dissolve clogs. Scalding water can also clear drains of grease.

Unclogging Toilets

The plunger or auger is usually enough to rid most toilet clogs. If these tools don't work at first you may need you proceed to the outside drain access which may require professional help.

Sewage system maintenance

Protect your investment and the environment by taking care of your septic system. For

longer, trouble free operation, you have to watch what gets flushed down the drain.

Do's

- Reduce the amount of water and wastewater entering the septic system. This can be done by installing low-flush toilets, water saving fixture, doing only full loads of dishes or laundry. Fix leaking taps, less water in equals less water out.

- Pump out the tank every 3 years, and have the tank inspected. 75% of the system failures are traced back to solids clogging the tank and bed.

- Maintain the area over the bed, keep the grass cut.

Keep trees away, the roots will enter and clog up the pipes.

- Use low sudsing, low phosphate detergents. Biodegradable detergents, with washing soda ingredients are recommended. Fabric softener dryer sheets are preferred over liquid softeners in the wash.

- Use recommended cleaning products which are non-chlorine, biodegradable, non-toxic and non-corrosive.

- Control water runoff from roofs, driveways and yards, grade away from the leaching bed area.

Don't's

- Do not do laundry all in one day each week, the large quantities of soapy water agitate the solids in the tank and dilute the beneficial microbes at work.

- Do not dispose grease, fats and oils into the system, they do not break down and tend to clog the weepers.

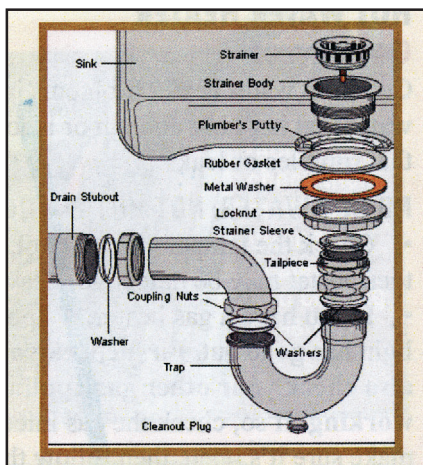
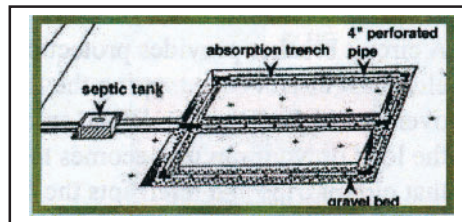
- Do not dump pesticides, herbicides, paints, automobile fluids, household chemicals, strong medicines, antibiotics or any other toxins into the system, they kill the active bacteria.

- Do not flush non-biodegradable materials such as plastics, disposable diapers, sanitary napkins and applicators they rapidly fill up the tank and will clog the system.

- Keep automobiles and heavy equipment off the drainfield.

- Do not plan any building additions, driveways, or other construction work near the septic tank or drainfield.

Other home maintenance tips will be published monthly.



Down payment and closing cost assistance programs available to Native American Homebuyers

OKMULGEE — The 5% down payment and closing cost assistance program of Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc. (REI) is available to Native Americans families.

REI's program works well with the HUD Section 184 Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Program. It is available in 76 Oklahoma counties to families that do not exceed the maximum family income of \$71,000.

"Our Program can fill a need for working Native American families desiring to become homeowners but find themselves struggling to come up with a down payment and other costs associated with the purchase of a home," said Tom Seth Smith, REI President & CEO. "And, we always appreciate the opportunity to work with local lenders to help meet the housing needs in their community."

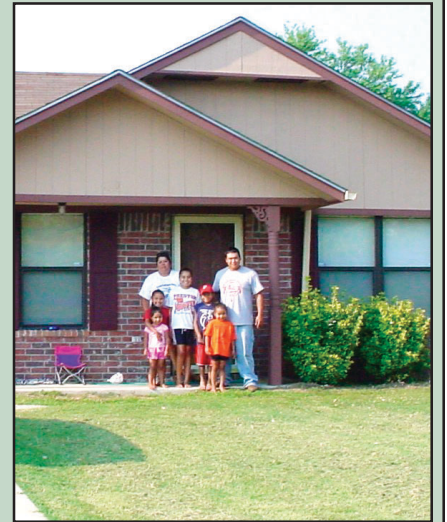
According to Smith, over 1,400 Oklahoma families have utilized REI's program to purchase the home of their dreams.

The section 184 program, was designed to improve access to capital for Native Americans, act as a credit enhancement mechanism for lenders and provide private funding opportunities for tribal housing agencies. "When these programs are combined, everyone's a winner," said Smith.

REI is a nonprofit economic development firm with corporate headquarters in Durant. The organization has served Oklahoma communities for more than 20 years with programs to help build better businesses, create jobs, strengthen neighborhoods and empower citizens to achieve the quality of life they want and deserve.

Currently, REI is working with Native American tribes and lenders throughout the state to create more awareness about the program and the opportunity it provides for the prospective homebuyer.

For more information, contact Randall Latham at (800) 658-2823. To find out more about REI and its economic development services, visit their website at: www.ruralenterprises.com.



Spotlight

"I have been weightlifting since I was nineteen....it gets me through some tough times."

Creek Athlete begins building up from past

by Gerald Wofford

Anyone who has raised himself up from the ashes of despair and begins to move forward, despite having no guarantee of success, is truly remarkable. In David Harjo's case, his story can almost be called a miracle.

Harjo's life journey didn't exactly start out in an ideal manner. Raised near Tulsa, he grew up in a tough neighborhood. As for any young boy in a tough neighborhood, trouble soon started. "I was hanging around with the wrong crowd" admits Harjo. "It wasn't exactly the ideal surroundings to be in."

In spite of the problems he was experiencing, there was one constant in his life that provided stability and focus, that was weightlifting.

"I have been weightlifting since I was nineteen years old," say Harjo. "It instilled in me confidence and self-worth."

As time passed, Harjo began to see the benefits of bodybuilding as his body began to become more defined. He became much stronger than his friends, which was important in the tough Indian neighborhood he was growing up in.

While his muscles were continuing to grow, so were his problems. "It all began when I was a teenager," said Harjo. "The wrong influences began to take their toll on my life."

Choices he made early in life turned out to be very costly. He was charged with various crimes that led him to serving many years in different penitentiaries throughout Oklahoma.

In spite of his incarceration, Harjo still had one shining light to turn to. "Weightlifting really helped me," said Harjo. "It helped me get through some tough times."

According to Harjo, weightlifting helped take his mind off being confined behind prison walls. He began to strive and look forward to the day when the barriers would all come down and he could walk out a free man.

As time began to pass, the days of competition no longer seemed a possibility. Despite his thoughts, he continued his regimen and kept himself in good shape, never losing the physical form he worked hard to develop.

Although Harjo felt the days of lifting for a medal or trophy were probably over, a sudden transfer to another institution fueled his desire to compete again.

As fate would have it, he was placed in a prison that held an annual

weightlifting contest. Everyone wanted him to enter and give the current champion a run for his money. "There was this guy that was the champion that everyone didn't actually like," said Harjo. "They thought he was very arrogant and he would tell everyone how he was going to win. He would go around bragging all year of how he was going to win the contest."

Many entered the contest, but eventually the bench press competition came down to Harjo and the defending champion. Harjo and his opponent would battle back and forth, eventually lifting 500 pounds and more.

Everyone who watched, hoped Harjo would lift just a little more. Soon the weight jumped to 575 pounds. Harjo prepared to bench press the weight first. As the metal bar was slowly lowered against his chest, he began to look up at the wall, and with a practiced thrust, he lifted the weight off his chest and lowered it on the metal stand. The defending champion failed to lift the weight and Harjo was declared the champion, as a roar was let out among everyone.

"I was happy I won," said Harjo. "I think my buddies were really glad. My trophy was a case of pop, which I just gave out to everyone."

If there was one important thing that Harjo got out of the competition, it was realizing the impact weightlifting could have in his life. The principle of setting goals could easily be transferred into his everyday life and help him become a better person.

Harjo is a free man now, the long days and nights of being confined behind bricked walls are now gone.

Despite all he has been through, he is not a bitter man. In fact, he hopes to give back and help others through the sport of weightlifting.

He resides in Tulsa now, and is forming a weightlifting team that will compete at national tournaments. He recently returned from a tournament in Salem, Oregon where he won first place. He trains at Owen park in Tulsa. The training facility is free and open to the public, a plus for what Harjo is wanting to accomplish. "I want the athletes to be able to come somewhere and train and not have to worry about paying any fees," he said.

Harjo will one day have his own team and gives all credit to God above for helping him become free. If you are interested in joining the national weightlifting team, contact Harjo at (918) 592-1683.



Legal

continued from page 17

U.S. 135, 174 (1927). The federal courts have in this regard also made reference to the United States Constitution's Necessary and Proper Clause, Article I, §8, clause 18 to conduct hearings and investigations. The authority stated in Title 30 §3-104 is based on constitutional law. Under this ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, no subpoena is necessary, and the remedy for the National Council is the same as that of the United States Congress, which is to issue and enforce subpoenas, event to hold someone in contempt of the National Council. This power has been recognized as existing in a three branch system of government for over 180 years. See *Anderson v. Dunn*, 19 U.S. (6 Wheat.) 204, 231 (1821). Similarly the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation grants extensive powers to the legislative branch of its government, while the enumeration of powers of the Principal Chief are very limited. The extent of the powers of the National Council as directed by the Constitution have been recognized by this court on more than one occasion. In 1995 the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation said:

“The National Council is created by Article VI, the National Council is authorized to legislate on ten categories of matters including under subsection (j) the power “to exercise any power not specifically set fort in this Article which may at some future date may be exercised by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation”. The Constitution contains no analogous grant of power to the Executive Branch”.

See *Bill S. Fife v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems Board & Muscogee (Creek) National Council v. Ed Mouss, et. al.*, SC 95-04 (Jun. 26, 1995).

These laws were duly enacted through the law making process of Art. VI, §6 of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. As stated above, this Court has previously ruled that ordinances of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation must be followed.

See *Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Members vs. Claude Cox, Gary Breshears, and Buddy York*, CV. 90-01 (Sup.Ct. Muscogee (Creek) Nation).

These laws have their foundation in the language of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and in the inherent powers of a legislative branch in a three-branch form of government. This allegation in nothing more than A.D. Ellis trying to avoid the law by going to this Court. The law itself grants due process for the accused under the provisions of Title 31, §1-101, et seq. (Officer Removal Act of 1989).

This presents another political question and should be deemed non-judicable.

7. Plaintiff asserts in his paragraph 4 D about the

provisions of Title 16§4-105 in that it requires the Lighthorse Administration policies and procedures to be approved by the National Council. Plaintiff states that this should not be allowed because the Lighthorse Administration is part of the executive branch.

The duly enacted ordinance in question states:

“All Lighthorse Administration employees shall abide by the policies and procedures of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and shall additionally abide policies and procedures of the Lighthorse Administration. Policies and procedures of the Lighthorse Administration shall be submitted to the National Council for approval by Tribal Resolution, after approval by the Lighthorse Chief, Principal Chief, and Attorney General, within 90 days of date of enactment of this chapter. Amendments to the Lighthorse Administration policies and procedures shall first be approved by the Lighthorse Chief, Principal Chief and Attorney General and then submitted to the National Council for approval by Tribal Resolution”.

A copy of this law is attached as Exhibit 5.

This issue may me addressed by reference to extensive powers granted the National Council by Art. VI, §§2 and 7 of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and comparing it to the limited powers granted to the executive in Art. V. An example of how this Supreme Court has addressed this issue is found in this statement:

“In the instant case for us to hold that the Principal Chief has the unbridled authority to create and organize the Executive Branch of government without any control from the legislative branch would be a crime against this Great nation. It would virtually make most the rest of the Constitution and the authorities for appropriation of funds and budgeting and other functions now held by the National Council. If this authority were condemned the Executive Branch could dispose of all the money, in his creation of what he wanted to do, pay only those people he wanted and effectively circumvent all authority of the National Council. There must be a limitation. There must be a balance of powers. We do not feel the Founders intended such broad authority to be given to the Executive Branch”.

See *Claude A. Cox v. Frank E. Kamp*, SC-91-03 (Jun. 27, 1991).

8. In his allegation contained in paragraph 4 E, plaintiff complains that TR 05-091 provides the National Council with control, direction and supervision of one of their own attorneys. TR 05-091 is not even enacted at this time, but is only proposed legislation. This allegation shows how intrusive into the internal workings of the legislative branch does the plaintiff wish to be. A copy of this Tribal Resolution, and its related documents (TR 04-060, the Special Service Attorney Agreement, and

NCA 04-101) are attached hereto as Exhibit 6.

TR 05-091 is entitled: A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Terminating the Special Services Attorney Agreement Between the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker, L.L.P. The Agreement that is the subject of this proposed legislation states in its own terms in paragraph 2, Scope of Legal Services, that the attorneys shall be: “Under the direction and supervision of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Speaker. Nowhere in the scope of legal services is the Principal Chief authorized to interfere with this Agreement and communication outside of the National Council is authorized only for the Attorney General of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The Agreement also states in its paragraph 6 that all written or oral reports for services rendered under it shall be given to the National Council. Furthermore, paragraph 11, Termination states that this Agreement may be terminated by the National Council by Tribal Resolution or by the Attorneys. The Principal Chief's authority does not exist and the Agreement is signed by the Speaker of the National Council and William R. Norman, Jr., as representative of the attorneys. The Principal Chief's authority does not exist and the Agreement is signed by the Speaker of the National Council and William R. Norman, Jr., as representative of the attorneys. Over and above all of this is the fact that the funding legislation for this Agreement is NCA 04-101, which appropriated \$115,000 for the attorneys and this legislation was approved by the Principal Chief A. D. Ellis on July 1, 2004!

This Supreme Court has stated at least twice that each branch of government may have their own attorneys. See *Bryant v. Childers*, 1 Okla. Trib. 316 (Muscogee (Creek) 1989); *Preferred Management Corporation and Gary Breashears v. National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation*, SC-89-05 (Mar. 23, 1990).

Plaintiff's allegation is clearly against the law and should be dismissed.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons stated above, defendant National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation request that this Supreme Court deny the request of plaintiff A.D. Ellis, find that his allegations have no basis in law or are contrary to law, and find against him on his request as stated in his petition paragraphs 5 A,B,C,D,E and 6 A,B,C,D,E. to deny him all his relief requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Pawhuska, OK 74056
Phone: (918) 287-4700
Fax: (918) 287-4711

July District Court filings

Protective Orders:

- Ethal Edmerson v. Stella Edmerson
Ex-Parte
- Jonita Rowe v. Victor Anderson, Jr.
Ex-Parte
- Jonita Rowe v. Victor Anderson, Jr
Ex-Parte
- Kevin Harjo v. Phillip Mills
Ex-Parte
- Ashley Watson v. Travis Maldonado
Ex-Parte
- Jonita Rowe v. Victor Anderson, Jr.
Ex-Parte
- Malinda Seymour v. Tommy Gouge
Ex-Parte
- Kevin Harjo v. Phillip Mills
Ex-Parte
- James Harper v. Donald Cooper
Ex-Parte
- Nancy Parnosky v. Ivan Parnosky
Ex-Parte

Traffic:

- MCN v. Jose Garcia
Operate motor vehicle w/o DL
- MCN v. Jose Garcia
Operate motor vehicle w/o insurance
- MCN v. Jose Garcia
Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. Jason Oneal
Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. Brad Williams
Minor in possession of alcohol
- MCN v. Raymond Scott
Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. Raymond Scott
Disorderly Conduct

Criminal Misdemeanor:

- MCN v. Randall R. Toney
Ct. 1 Public Intoxication
- MCN v. Stephen L. Nelson
Ct. 1 Carrying weapons in or about buildings located on tribal land

Criminal Felonies:

- MCN v. Rodney Haltom
Ct. 1 Embezzlement; Theft; & False Accounts
- MCN v. Timothy Barnett
Ct. 1 Aggravated Assault

Family Domestic:

- Tribal Child Support Enforcement, Ex. Rel. JoAnna Birdcreek v. Stanley Birdcreek
- Tribal Child Support Services, Ex. Rel. Heather Gonzales v. Joshua Carney

Divorce:

- Tina McKinney v. Warren Coachman
- Regina Smalley v. Ricky Smalley
- Meredith Scott v. Reginald Scott
- Daisy Murphree v. Ricky Murphree
- Pamela Guest v. Chester Guest
- James Harper v. Lisa Harper

Legal Notices

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
Volume 34, Issue 8, August 2005

Case No. G2005-05

In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District: In the Matter of service of summons by publication Ethel Mae Edmerson, Petitioner and Stella Louise Edmerson, Respondent

SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATIONS
NOTICE

TO: Unknown Father of D.R.E. and D.L.E.

TAKE NOTICE that you have been filed in the District court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in an action entitled Ethel Mae Edmerson v. Stella Louise Edmerson, by plaintiff, Ethel Mae Edmerson. This summons by publication is specifically directed to the biological father of D.R.E. and D.L.E. who were born in Okmulgee Memorial Hospital on October 26, 1997 and May 24, 2000 respectively, whose whereabouts are unknown.

The nature of this suit is guardianship, making Ethel Mae Edmerson the guardian of the above mentioned minor children.

Unless you answer the petition on or before September 5, 2005 judgment will be taken in favor of Ethel Mae Edmerson. Given under my hand and seal this 15 day of July, 2005.

By: Marva Proctor, Deputy approved:
Kathleen Supernaw, MCN 360
Lori Guevara, MCN 199
Dawn Sturdevant Baum, MCN 349
The University of Tulsa - Boesche Legal Clinic
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Program
407 S. Florence Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74104-2430
(918) 631-5799

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
Volume 34, Issue 8, August 2005

Case No. G2005-06

In the District court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District: In the Matter of service of summons by publication notice in the matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of S.L.G.

SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATIONS
NOTICE

TO: Myia Natrice Cole and Celester Lamont German

TAKE NOTICE that a petition for permanent guardianship has been filed in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. G2005-06 styled in the matter of the guardianship of the person and estate of S.L.G. (Date of birth: April 18, 2001). The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to an order appointing the petitioner as guardian of the person and estate of Shania Latrice German.

You are notified that you must answer the petition filed by the petitioner on or before the 12th day of September, 2005 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District court, Okmulgee, OK or the allegations contained in the petition will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of

petitioner as prayed for in her petition.

Given under my hand and seal this 12 day of July, 2005.
Nancy Jukich, Court clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District
By: Jody Thornbrugh, Deputy approved:
Pamela Kushmaul
Attorney for Petitioner
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Program
407 S. Florence Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74104-2430
(918) 631-5799

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
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Case No. AD-2005-03

In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District: In the matter of the adoption of M. M. M., born October 2, 1988.

Notice of Hearing on Petition for Adoption

The State of Oklahoma to: Gary Alan Madrid

On the 7th day of April, 2005, a Petition for the Adoption of M. M. M., a minor child, born on the 2nd day of October, 1988, was filed by TOMMY CANTRELL, stepfather of M. M. M., said Petition for Adoption is set for hearing on the 1st day of September, 2005 at 9:00 o'clock a.m., in the District Courtroom of The Honorable PATRICK E. MOORE, at the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Petitioner has alleged in the Petition that you, are the alleged biological father of M. M. M., a child born to DINA CANTRELL, having actual knowledge of the birth or impending birth of said child, have failed to exercise parental rights or duties over said child, including failure to contribute to the support of said child to the extent of your financial ability during her term of pregnancy, or during the life of said child, and further that you have failed to establish and or maintain a relationship with the child for 6 of the last 14 months.

You are, therefore, notified that the Court will hear evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of the Petition at the time and place shown above where you will have the right to be present, have an opportunity to be heard at said time and place, and have the right to object to the adoption of said child. Your failure to appear at said hearing shall constitute a denial of your interest in the child, which denial may result, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceedings, in said child's adoption, thereby terminating your rights to said child in accordance with the laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Signed and dated this 6th day of July, 2005.

/s/ Patrick E. Moore, Judge of the District Court
Submitted by:
Lou Ann Moudy, OBA #13741
506 West Main Street
Henryetta, Oklahoma 74437
(918) 652-3328
(918) 652-2305 fax
Attorney for Petitioners

TIMMIE FIFE

DUSTIN —Funeral services for Timmie “Tim” Fife were held June 7, at Thelwarle Indian Baptist Church with the Rev. Mitchell Taylor officiating.

Timmie was born August 18, 1952 to Carmen Griffin Fife and James G Fife.

He grew up in the Dustin/Graham area and graduated from Dustin High School. He later attended OSU Tech in Okmulgee and graduated there with a mechanics degree. Later he also attended Seminole State College and Northeastern Oklahoma State University.

Fife was a member of Thelewarle Indian Baptist Church and Creek Nation Council from 1993-1995. He served several terms as President and was currently serving as Vice-President of the Dustin Indian Community.

Timmie was instrumental in getting the Indian Community Center established there. He served as a board member for the Muskogee County Indian Credit Association in Okmulgee. Fife worked as a mechanic at Supertire Center in Henryetta for the past year. He previously worked for a number of years as a mechanic at Charley Ruth Ford Company and Mike Bailey Chevrolet.

Tim was proceeded in death by both his father and mother; and one sister, Hannah Louise Fife.

Survivors include: his wife, Sheila Fife of the home; a daughter, Tracey Jean Wade; two brothers, Bill and Brian Fife both of Dustin; five sisters, Carole Stewart of Washington, OK, Sharon Mouse of Henryetta, Phylliss Fife of Tahlequah, Sandy Wilson of Morris and Robin Jenkins of Holdenville; two grandchildren, Jared Wayne Fife and Andrea Nichole Wade both of Poteau and numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, friends and other relatives.

Pallbearers include: Jeff Fife, Derek Fife, Eddie Mouss, Clint Wilson, Dan Wilson, James Fife, and Leland Bear.

Honorary Pallbearers were: Dale Pendley, Burce Smith, Matt Wade, Shawn Pendley, and Billy Williams.

Interment was at the Fife Family Cemetery.

KENNETH DEERE

HOLDENVILLE —Funeral services for Rev. Kenneth James Deere were held June 27 at Salt Creek United Methodist Church with Revs. Lyle Deere, Alvin Deer and Dr. Harry Long officiating.

Kenneth was born on June 8, 1936 in Holdenville to Eli Roy Deer and Melissa (Long) Deer.

Deere was raised in Holdenville and joined the US Marine Corps at the age of 17. Following his military service he joined the church becoming and ordained elder. His forty-three year career with the United Methodist Church was devoted to the tireless fight against racism and injustice at all levels.

Reverend Deere served for sixteen years with Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference and twenty-seven years as Associate General Secretary for the General Commission on Religion and Race with the United Methodist Church in Washington, D.C. He retired in July, 2003.

His special passion was for Native American rights, religious freedom, as well as language and cultural preservation. He was well recognized for his work for the Commission, which gave him the opportunity to serve Native American communities all across the nation, as well as all ethnic groups considered minorities. Rev. Deere was a “voice for the voiceless.” He lived and worked for truth and honesty with the courage to say things that others would retreat or

refrain from saying and he did it with integrity.

Deere was never afraid to challenge authority or the status quo. Ken utilized the tool of humor to break stalemates and diffuse tense situations. He was a man before his time that stepped out into unknown areas, paving the way for other Native Americans to seek opportunities and see the broader vision of the church. He was instrumental in drafting sports teams. On November 5, 1995 Kenneth married Joni Messenger in at Wilshire United Methodist Church in Los Angeles, California.

He was preceded in death by his father, Eli Roy Deere. Survivors include: his wife; mother; children Lyle and Lisa Deere of Muskogee and Johnna Gouge of Coweta; six grandchildren Tenetke, Melinda, Kosa, Maria, Paskova and Sukey. Rev. Deere also leaves a host of aunts, uncles, other relatives and many, friends.

Pallbearers include: Jerry Deere, Wotko Long, Robert McGeeley, David Long, III, Tenetke Deere and Christopher Aultman.

Honorary Pallbearers include: George Tinker, Conrado Soltero, James Taylor, Kosa Deere, Junior McGeeley, Paskova Deere, Gary and Larry Long and Paul Fixico.

Interment was held at the Harjo Family Cemetery.

BOBBY WILLIAMS

HENRYETTA —Funeral services for Bobby Leon Williams were held June 29 at the Shurden Chapel with Rev. Alfred Berryhill officiating.

Bobby was born June 4, 1942 to Alice Tihen Wesley and Irvin A. Williams. He worked in the Pipeline Industry and was a member of Yardeka Indian Baptist Church.

Williams was proceeded in death by his her parents. Survivors include: his Fiancee’, Sharon Sala of the home; three children, Vincent Williams and Rhonda Roberts both of Henryetta and Kerry Trent Peters of Ada; four grandchildren, Tamara Miller, Lisa Williams, J.R. Williams and Mackenzie Roberts all of Henryetta; one great grandchild, Avery Jade Miller of Henryetta; two brothers, Billy and Barton Williams both of Henryetta; three sisters, Jewell Berry of Hanna, Clemma Rose Luellen of Henryetta and Carolyn Ann Hammontree of Eufaula as well as a host of nieces, nephews, friends, and other relatives.

Pallbearers include: Marty Williams, Wesley Berry, Brad Luellen, Rodney Luellen, Shawn Williams and Shane Berry.

Interment was held at the Williams Family Cemetery.

JACKSON TIGER, JR

TIGER MOUNTAIN —Funeral services for Jackson Tiger, Jr. were held July 9 at Silver Springs Baptist Church officiated by Rev. A. J. Tiger and Rev. Dennis Bible.

Jackson was born September 17, 1921 to Lila (Collins) and Jackson Tiger Sr.

He was married to Dorcus (Lowe) Tiger, at Silver Springs Baptist Church on January 7, 1948. Jackson was a school bus driver and custodian with Dewar Schools for many years. He was a veteran of World War II serving with the U.S. Army. Tiger was a member of Silver Springs Baptist Church.

Jackson was proceeded in death by his parents.

Survivors include: his wife of the home; four children, A.J. and Tony Tiger of Tiger Mountain, Wilma Tiger of Okmulgee, Eric Tiger of Siloam Springs, Arkansas; ten grandchildren; six great grandchildren; a special nephew Tad Lowe of Dickison, Texas as well as a host of friends and other relatives.

Pallbearers include: Tony R. Tiger, Eric Tiger, Brett Tiger, Zac

Tiger, Tyler Tiger, Carl Britt, Tad Lowe, and Ross Britt, Brett Tiger, Jr.

Honorary Pallbearers include: H. B. Taylor, Sonny Been, Darrell Howell, Robert Davis, Kenny Pinkston, Ken Holloway, Cole Britt, Brandon Tiger, Tim Newton, Spook McIntosh, Bill Spurlock, Joe Gresham, W. J. Celestine, and The Men of Silver Springs Baptist Church.

Interment was held at the Silver Springs Cemetery.

NAGGIE WILBANKS

CHECOTAH —Funeral services for Naggie (Bear) Wilbanks were held June 25 at the First Freewill Baptist Church with the Rev. Bertis McLenore and Rev. Richmond Carr officiating.

Naggie was born to Ryder and Etta (Carr) Bear. She was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary, the Checotah Indian Community, and had worked in home health as a provider. Naggie was also a member of the Hope Baptist Church, and a past member of Deep Fork Hillabee Indian Baptist Church.

Bear loved to attend gospel singings and enjoyed spending time with her family, going shopping, and buying shoes. Naggie was a great cook and would always cook and take food to people when they were sick or when they had a death in the family. She will be greatly missed by the many people that knew her.

Naggie was proceeded in death by her parents, brother Seaman Bear, and one sister Samaria Wilbanks.

Survivors include: one son, Vernon Wilbanks, Jr; three daughters, Loretta Owens, Sue Henson, and Belinda “Benji: and husband Kenny Sisco, all of Checotah; two sisters, Jeannetta Anderson of Checotah and Della Rayon of Tulsa; grandchildren Denise Coleman, Terry Dickson, Tabby Colburn, Kurt Henson, Jason Dowdy, Seth Colburn, Kendall Sisco, Kalen, Nick, Kyla and Emma Wilbanks; eleven great grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers include: nephews, Ronnie Henderson, Charles Henderson, Ronnie Crane, David Wilbanks, Dennis Wilbanks and Max Bear

Interment was held at the Greenlawn Cemetery.

Letters

continued from page 2

wanted to remind you that the Muscogee Creek Nation is blessed to have Mr. Lewis to take care of all your healing needs, as well as those needs of other people.

Lewis was instrumental in passing 48 legislative bills through the National Council for the benefit and enrichment of all while he has in office. David Lewis Jr. should be honored as a pat of his tribe that he has served so faithfully for so many years.

Also, David healed me when there was no hope. All the doctors had left me for dead. David took it upon himself, as he has done with so many others, and helped me to heal and grow as a human being. He gave me hope and a willingness to continue on with my life. In my opinion, David is a very special man, a Medicine Man, and a very spiritual man dedicated to God, his medicine, and his people. He is honorable, courageous, true to his word, and the Muscogee Creek Nation is better off by far because of his efforts.

I have found a peace and good friend in David. I hope that he can be honored as one of the elders of your tribe. It would be sad indeed, if the People have forgotten or do not understand their heritage and culture by overlooking this Great Medicine Man who has spent his entire life helping them.

Eletha Gibreath

Shop talk with Gerald

Well, here we are folks, the month of August and the proverbial Dog Days are upon us. Why do they call it the dog days? I know its not because there are a lot of dogs around usually about this time. Dogs are just about the smartest animals around. Hiding out in the shade, dog house, or something. Is it because August is usually the hottest month of the year that it is given the title? If you know the answer let me know.

But to August, this is the time when high school athletes are going through two-a-day practices to get ready for the fall games. Football is the first sport everyone thinks of, but there are others such as cross-country and softball that kids are preparing for. But with football, not only is the high school games anticipated, but the college and pro games are something to look forward to as the shoulder pads and cleats are dawned for another promising fall on the gridiron.

Speaking of this hot time of year and football practice, it used to be way back in the day, and yeah, I'm telling on my age, that the month of August was the time you realized you were going to pay for the lazy summer you just enjoyed. You knew you were gonna play football, but you knew you had the two-a-day practices in August to get in shape and play the season. Yeah, you had summer jobs like lawn mowing, hauling hay, or working at a golf course, which is what I did. But you knew you would be sweating it out in August and everything would take care of itself.

But the times have changed, and today's athlete, whether high school or another level, now prepares all year round. There is no time off. Athletes now are more serious and take a more sophisticated approach about playing the game and getting into shape, which was partly the whole reason behind two-a-day practices.

Today's coaches, like Oklahoma State's Mike Gundy and Miami Dolphins Nick Saban, are totally rethinking the old philosophy of two-a-day practices. Gundy and Saban both admit that their players are in great physical shape and ready to start the season. It's the overall game plan and playbook that really need to be emphasized in today's practices.

Besides working harder today, the modern athlete also demands more break time and fluid build up. Trainers and coaches are always available with squeeze bottles filled with water or gatorade, not just between scheduled breaks, but practically between each play.

Back in the day we had our two-a-day practices in 100 degree weather and looked forward to the ice cube we got during our five minute break between two hour practices for two weeks straight. Aw, the good old days!

Creek gymnastics teacher helps others learn

SAPULPA — When Millie Bigler sets her mind on something, she really gets things done. The fourteen year old Muscogee (Creek) and Yuchi girl started learning the sport of gymnastics at the age of three. But it wasn't just enough to learn how to flip and tumble, she also wanted to learn how to be a winner and a teacher as well.

As mentioned earlier, Bigler is only 14, and at this young age she is already contemplating retirement from the sport. But that opens the door for her becoming a teacher.

"I competed in gymnastics at the Tulsa World of Gymnastics and in Jenks," says Bigler. "I now coach at Gymnastics Junction in Sapulpa."

Bigler is the youngest coach on the staff, but that isn't something she really concerns herself with. She approaches the job in a business type manner and makes sure that the students are getting the proper coaching and training. "I have been teaching for six months," says Bigler, who admits that being a coach is a worthwhile venture. "It's great, I like it a lot. I get to

help people learn."

According to Bigler, the physical demands that gymnastics requires has helped her shake shells at her tribal ceremonial ground, Polecat, near Kellyville. But just like gymnastics, Bigler started dancing at the grounds at a young age. "I grew up at the stomp grounds and I enjoy it," she said. "It's lots of fun."

The competitive nature is still in her as she likes to compete in a bowling league. "I play in the Junior Professional Bowling League," says Bigler, who proudly admits



her high score is a 206.

Her skills have also carried over in the classroom. She was recently selected as one of the top writers in a Sertoma essay contest. The prose entitled, *What Freedom Means to Me* was written with a true Native American perspective.

Bigler's future plans are to one day attend the University of Oklahoma and pursue a medical degree in pediatrics.

Creek softball player just keeps on rolling

SUN LAKES, Ariz. — Muscogee (Creek) athlete Ela Bailey continues to prove that you are only as old as you feel. The sixty-one year old lady softball player recently competed at the National Senior Olympics in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Bailey joined a team out of her home state of Arizona called, The Tucson Rancherettes, out of Tucson, Arizona.

The Rancherettes top all of the competition by capturing first place in the National Senior Ladies Division. The Rancherettes had to win a state tour-

namment to qualify, it didn't seem to be a problem for them as they cruised to an undefeated record on their way to Pittsburgh.

When Bailey isn't playing softball, she also is involved with basketball. She also plays with the Anasazi Ladies, who also qualified for the tournament as well.

Not only was Bailey the only Creek softball player, she was the only Native American on the Rancherettes roster.

Bailey says she will continue to play and has no plans to retire.



Bailey waits for the pitch during tournament play.